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**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Thirty-ninth session

**Bonn, Germany
28 June – 8 July 2015**

**Item 7B of the Provisional Agenda: State of conservation of properties
inscribed on the World Heritage List**

SUMMARY

This document contains information on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. The World Heritage Committee is requested to review the reports on the state of conservation of properties contained in this document. The full reports of Reactive Monitoring missions requested by the World Heritage Committee are available at the following Web address in their original language: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/39COM/documents>

All previous state of conservation reports are available through the World Heritage State of conservation Information System at the following Web address:

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc>

Decision required: The World Heritage Committee may wish to adopt the draft Decision presented at the end of each state of conservation report.

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I. REPORTS ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

NATURAL PROPERTIES

AFRICA

1. Dja Wildlife Reserve (Cameroon) (N 407)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (ix) (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/407/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 1987-1997)

Total amount approved: USD 84,700

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/407/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Global amount granted: USD 60,000, UNESCO FIT Netherlands. USD 193,275 and USD 118,725, respectively in 2008 and 2009, in the frame of the Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI) in the south-west of Cameroon. USD 263,700 from Franz Weber Foundation for a sustainable conservation project for the property.

Previous monitoring missions

March 1998: UNESCO monitoring mission; June 2006, December 2009 and February-March 2012: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of entire approval and implementation of management plan
- Agricultural and forest encroachment
- Mining exploitation project close to the property
- Industrial agriculture in the buffer zone
- Threats exerted by commercial hunting and deforestation around the Park
- Mekin hydroelectric dam
- Poaching

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/407/>

Current conservation issues

On 17 February 2015, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/407/documents>. The report provides the following information:

- In July 2014, seven additional forest guards were made available to the Conservation Service. The purchase of a patrol boat was also made possible in 2014. Current efforts are geared towards securing additional funding and to developing a sustainable financing mechanism;
- The Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) undertaken for the Mekin Dam and the Sud Hévéa Cameroun plantation both include an Environmental and Social Management Plan, detailing measures to mitigate impacts of these projects. Implementation of these measures by Sud Cameroun Hévéa has started, although the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Sud Cameroun Hévéa and the Conservation Service has not yet been signed. An MoU has also been signed between HYDRO MEKIN and the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries (MINEPIA);
- Draft Terms of Reference for the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) of all current and future projects around the property are attached to the report. This study was financed by the Franz Weber Foundation within the framework of the sustainable conservation project of the Dja Faunal Reserve. The SESA is expected to be implemented in 2016 and 2017;
- In 2014, the surveillance effort has increased to 61% compared to 2013, and the number of lawsuits against poachers has increased by 24%. As a result, the use of traps and the amount of bush meat seized are reported to have decreased, however the number of tusks seized has increased from 37 in 2013 to 66 in 2014;
- In order to address deforestation, the property is almost entirely surrounded by forest concessions, most of which are subject to the principles of sustainable forest exploitation and governance of EU-FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance, and Trade);
- The three mining permits overlapping with the property have never been implemented, and have all expired, most of them on 30 November 2014. They have not been, and will not be, renewed. The mining company GEOVIC is stated to have halted its activities;
- The boundaries of the property have not been changed since its inscription. Only the buffer zone has changed, but the area of the property is confirmed to remain at 526 000 ha;
- The State Party's partners have foreseen nearly 45 billion FCFA (approximately 72.8 million USD) for securing protected areas in the region.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The State Party's continued efforts to increase staff and the operational budget and investment into the property's Conservation Service are noted with appreciation, and it should be encouraged to continue these efforts.

It is recommended that the Committee commend the State Party for its efforts to increase surveillance of the property, which appear to be achieving results in terms of reducing the use of traps and the amount of bush meat seized. While the increase in the number of tusks seized could simply be a consequence of the increased surveillance effort, it is undeniable that elephant poaching remains a significant threat to the property. Given that elephant poaching is affecting World Heritage properties and other protected areas across Africa, it is highly welcomed that the State Party's partners have foreseen nearly 45 billion FCFA (approximately USD 72.8 million) for securing protected areas, including reversing poaching at the local, national, and transboundary levels.

While the State Party notes that poaching and deforestation are both a real threat to the property, no statistics are provided on deforestation. It is noted that mechanisms are in place and being further explored to regulate forest concessions around the property, and that awareness raising activities are conducted to address agricultural encroachment. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide statistics on deforestation to demonstrate the effectiveness of these measures.

The confirmation that all three mining permits that overlapped with the property have expired and will not be renewed is welcome. It is recalled that GEOVIC obtained its mining license in 2003 with an initial validity of 25 years. It is not clear whether the stated halting of activities by GEOVIC is of a permanent or temporary nature, especially given that the draft Terms of Reference for the SESA refers to the GEOVIC project as an existing project. It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide further information in that regard, and to ensure that an assessment of potential impacts from the GEOVIC project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property is completed prior to any future resumption of activities, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment.

Concerning the Environmental and Social Management Plans for both the Mekin dam and the Sud Cameroun Hévéa industrial plantation, no further information is provided by the State Party concerning the measures taken to prevent or mitigate the negative direct and indirect impacts of these developments on the OUV of the property, as identified in their respective EIAs, beyond activities to contribute to awareness raising, anti-poaching, and monitoring. These measures are considered insufficient to address the significant potential impacts of these developments. Therefore, whilst progress was reported last year on the requests made in Decision **36 COM 7B.1**, Paragraph 7 a) and b) relating to the revision of the limits of the iron ore exploration license that overlapped with the property and the suspension of work at the GEOVIC concession, significant progress is not apparent in relation to the requests made in Paragraph 7 c) and d) relating to the identification of adequate measures to mitigate the impacts on the property from the Sud Cameroun Hévéa industrial plantation and the Mekin dam. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.86**, it is therefore recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to provide further information about the measures taken to minimize and mitigate direct and indirect impacts from these developments, in particular in relation to degradation and fragmentation of habitats, and the risk of the proliferation of invasive species, and to invite a joint World Heritage Centre- IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess progress on these issues.

It is finally recommended that the Committee reconsider the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger at its 40th session in 2016, if no significant progress has been accomplished concerning the requests previously made by the Committee, as enumerated above.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **36 COM 7B.1** and **38 COM 7B.86**, adopted at its 36th (Saint Petersburg, 2012) and 38th (Doha, 2014) sessions respectively,*
3. *Notes with appreciation the State Party's continued efforts to increase staff and the operational budget and investment into the property's Conservation Service, and encourages the State Party to continue these efforts;*
4. *Commends the State Party for its efforts to increase surveillance of the property but notes with concern that elephant poaching remains a significant threat to the property, and highly welcomes the commitment by the State Party and its partners to address poaching at the local, national, and transboundary levels;*
5. *Also welcomes the progress made by the State Party with the formulation of terms of reference for the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) of all of the major projects around the property, and encourages the State Party to mobilize funds necessary to carry-out this study;*
6. *Notes the efforts made to address deforestation, and requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre statistics about deforestation in the property and in its vicinity, in order to demonstrate the effectiveness of these efforts;*
7. *Further welcomes the information that the three mining permits overlapping the property have expired and will not be renewed, and also requests the State Party to further clarify the state of the GEOVIC mining project in the property's vicinity, and to ensure that potential impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) are assessed prior to any resumption of activities, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment;*

8. Also notes with concern that no information is provided on the specific measures taken to reduce and mitigate the significant potential direct and indirect impacts on the OUV of the property from both the Mekin dam project and the Sud Cameroun Hévéa industrial plantation, as identified in the respective Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for these developments, and considers therefore that significant progress is required in line with the requests made in Decision **36 COM 7B.1**, Paragraph 7 c) and d);
9. Urges the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, as a matter of priority, further information on the measures taken to minimize and mitigate the impacts from the above mentioned projects on the property, particularly in relation to degradation and fragmentation of habitats, and the risk of the proliferation of invasive species, and also considers that the continued development of these projects, without adequate mitigation measures in place, would lead to the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
10. Further requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre- IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess progress with the implementation of measures to minimize and mitigate the impacts on the OUV of the property from the Mekin dam project and the Sud Cameroun Hévéa industrial plantation;
11. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016, **with a view to considering, in the absence of substantial progress, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

2. Sangha Trinational (Cameroon / Central African Republic / Congo) (N 1380rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2012

Criteria (ix) (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1380/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1380/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: 250,000 EUR from 2008 to 2013 through the Central African World Heritage Forest Initiative funded by the European Commission

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Civil unrest
- Poaching

- Mining

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1380/>

Current conservation issues

On 29 January 2015, the three States Parties submitted a joint report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1380/documents/>. The report contains the following information:

- Although existing financial resources are still available to the property, additional funding is necessary, notably to facilitate the involvement of local communities in conservation activities and to ensure optimal surveillance and efficient monitoring of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
- The number of guards has been increased through the recruitment of ecoguards and the availability of the army to strengthen surveillance. The number of anti-poaching missions has increased to 797 in 2014 (641 in 2013). Training in the tool SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tools) was organized;
- Poaching remains an important threat, in particular due to an increase in commercial hunting. Illegal fishing and the traffic of parrots are also mentioned. The delinquents apprehended often do not receive appropriate sentences on the part of the justice, which engenders a high level of reoffending;
- No mining company exists in the property nor in its buffer zone but explorations have been carried out in the Central African Republic (CAR) and the Congo in 2013. Since that date there has been no activity. In the Congo the exploration concession has not been renewed. In the CAR, the Ministry of Water and Forests has undertaken steps to request the Ministry of Mines to cancel mining permits infringing on the property. Illegal gold mining is noted in the buffer zone of the Cameroon;
- Studies are underway for the construction of a road Ouessou-Bangui. These studies, which include an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be available end-2015;
- The work on the optical fibre project in the vicinity of Ouessou, 17 km to the west of the property, has begun and the EIA report is available. However, this report has not been submitted to the World Heritage Centre;
- Two exploitation and development permits have been granted to industrial forestry companies in the dense Special Forest Reserve, in the buffer zone of the Central African component of the property. The collateral risk effects such as hunting and demographic explosion are recognized;
- There are several monitoring projects in the property and its buffer zone, including ecological monitoring and monitoring of good practice in forestry exploitation.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The efforts undertaken by the States Parties and their partners to strengthen security in and around the property, combat poaching and to ensure the funding of the property have been noted. However, commercial poaching remains an important threat. The lack of strict enforcement of the law by the judicial administration contributes to a climate of impunity for wildlife crimes. It is therefore recommended that the States Parties continue to strengthen surveillance, notably with tri-national patrols. Further, a stricter enforcement of the law and punishments to dissuade the network of commercial poaching is advisable. These actions should be accompanied by activities to benefit the local communities in managing the issue of man-elephant conflicts, the promotion of alternative income-generating activities and the strengthening of capacities for the management of natural resources.

Although there are no mining activities in the Congolese and Central African components of the property, it is recommended that the Committee request the three States Parties to cancel the mining concessions that might encroach upon the property and its buffer zone and to confirm their categorical commitment that no mining exploitation or exploration will be permitted within the property, in conformity with the position of the Committee that these activities are incompatible with World Heritage status. It is also recommended that the Committee request the Cameroon State Party to strengthen its

efforts to eliminate all illegal gold mining within the property and to ensure the ecological restoration of the exploited sites.

Information regarding the infrastructure development projects is very limited. The EIA for the optical fibre project was not submitted. The Ouesso-Bangui road project could have an important direct and indirect impact on the integrity of the property, but the report provides no details of the planned route. A media report dated 31 July 2014 notes that the work for the road linking Ouessou to Enyellé, which is part of the Ouessou-Bangui road, had already begun. IUCN notes the request for public interest published in 2011 for a “*study of the road Ouesso-Bangui-N’Djamena and the river navigation of the Congo, the Oubangui and the Sangha*” and considers that the river navigation of the Sangha could also have an important impact on the property. It would be important that an EIA evaluate the potential impacts of the road and river transport project on the OUV of the property, in conformity with the IUCN Advice Note on Environmental Assessments for World Heritage and that it be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for evaluation by IUCN, before a decision is taken on this project.

The granting of two development and forestry exploitation permits in the Special Reserve presents certain risks to the integrity of the property. The measures foreseen to mitigate these collateral effects linked to forestry exploitation are vague. It is recommended that the Committee request the Central African State Party to establish precise specifications with measures to ensure the integrity of the property, notably by ensuring control of the access and a surveillance of the Special Reserve. It would also be advisable that the companies in question seek to certify their concessions.

Finally, it is recommended that the Committee request the States Parties to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property as soon as the EIA of the road and river transport project is available, to evaluate the state of conservation of the property, in particular the potential impacts of the infrastructure development projects, impacts on the security crisis at the project, impact of illegal activities such as poaching and the implementation of recommendations prescribed at the time of inscription of the property (Decision **35 COM 8B.4**).

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.2

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.87**, adopted by the Committee at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),*
3. *Commends the States Parties of Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR) and the Congo for having undertaken measures to increase the security mechanisms in and around the property, and warmly welcomes the information provided by the States Parties that no mining activity was present in the Central African and Congolese components of the property;*
4. *Notes with concern that poaching of protected species and illegal fishing are on the increase in the property, and requests the States Parties to intensify their surveillance efforts by making available the necessary financial and human resources to ensure an optimal surveillance and increase the tri-national patrols, and ensure the strictest enforcement of the laws and punishments to dissuade the network of commercial poaching;*
5. *Encourages the States Parties to reinforce cooperation with local communities by seeking solutions to manage the man-elephant conflict, the promotion of activities to generate alternative income and capacity strengthening in the management of natural resources;*

6. Also requests the States Parties to repeal possible mining permits that encroach upon the property and its buffer zone, to confirm their categorical commitment that no mining exploration or exploitation would be allowed within the property, in accordance with the position of the Committee that these activities are incompatible with World Heritage status and that no mining activity will be permitted in the vicinity of the property because of the possible negative impact on its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and further requests the Cameroon State Party to strengthen its efforts to eliminate all illegal gold mining within the property and to ensure the ecological restoration of the sites;
7. Also notes with concern the road and river transport project that could have an impact on the integrity of the property and reiterates its request to the respective States Parties to carry out a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to identify the possible impacts on the OUV of the property caused by this project, in accordance with the IUCN Note concerning the environmental assessments concerning World Heritage, and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre before approval of the project;
8. Requests furthermore the States Parties to submit the EIA of the optical fibre project planned to pass in the vicinity of the property;
9. Further notes that the granting of two development and forestry exploitation permits in the Special Forest Reserve in the buffer zone of the Central African component presents certain risks for the integrity of the property, and requests moreover the Central African State Party to develop concise specifications with measures to ensure the integrity, in particular by controlling access and surveillance of the Reserve, and also encourages the companies concerned to certify their concession;
10. Requests in addition the States Parties to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property as soon as the EIA of the road and river transport project is available, to evaluate the state of conservation of the property, in particular the potential impacts of the development projects, impacts of the security crisis on the property, the impact of illegal activities such as poaching and the implementation of the recommendations made at the time of inscription of the property (Decision **35 COM 8B.4**);
11. Finally requests that the States Parties submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

3. Lakes of Ounianga (Chad) (N 1400)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2012

Criteria (vii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1400/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1400/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Urban development and infrastructures
- Waste management
- Pollution
- Transboundary road traffic
- Agricultural development
- Tourism development
- Silting of the lakes/reduction in water supply
- Absence of an adequate management plan
- Human pressure

Illustrative material <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1400/>

Current conservation issues

On 22 January 2015, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1400/documents/>. Progress achieved in the implementation of earlier Committee decisions is presented in this report, as follows:

- The management plan was established in a participatory manner with the local communities and guarantees their right to maintain sustainable traditional use of resources;
- The local communities are represented in the local Organization and Execution Committee responsible for the implementation of the management plan, and in the National Interministerial and Pluridisciplinary Scientific Committee (CSNIP), thus ensuring the respect of local traditions, the recognition and best use of local knowledge;
- The CSNIP meets regularly to examine requests of the local communities and ensure they are compatible with the management plan and to identify potential threats to the property, as well as priority management activities to be implemented;
- Other activities include:
 - addressing waste management through ‘clean-up’ days,
 - increasing the production of traditional market gardening by making available garden equipment and appropriate seeds,
 - installing sign boards clarifying the status of the property as a World Heritage property,
 - strict regulation of access of vehicles at the lake shores,

- appointment of staff to combat sand siltation, notably through the installation of fencing to prevent the dunes from advancing;
- Management of the property has an annual budget of 120 millions FCFA (about 183,000 euros) and 40% tourist income from the property. The property has a manager and an assistant, as well as the Ministry of Environment and Fisheries Resources staff to ensure surveillance and law enforcement.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The State Party has achieved significant progress in the implementation of the Committee decisions and should be congratulated. The participation of local communities in the management of the property through the Local Committee and the CSNIP is a significant step as it ensures the respect of their rights to maintain sustainable traditional use of the resources and recognition of local knowledge.

Commendable progress has also been made in the combat against threats to the property, identified at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List, such as pollution, agricultural development and siltation of the lakes. However, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide more information on certain measures undertaken. For example, in order to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, it is essential to ensure that at the time of sowing seeds to improve the production of market gardening, all risk of the introduction of invasive species must be avoided and controlled. Also, the installation of fencing to prevent the encroachment of the dunes must not impact the outstanding natural beauty of the property. With regard to waste management, although 'clean-up' days are organized, there always remains the need to set up a regular waste collection system to ensure that waste does not accumulate again.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.3

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **36 COM 8B.7** and **38 COM 7B.88**, adopted respectively at its 36th (Saint Petersburg, 2012) and 38th (Doha, 2014) sessions,*
3. *Congratulates the State Party for the progress achieved in the implementation of the Committee decisions, notably in ensuring the participation of local communities in the management of the property and the respect of local knowledge and their rights to maintain sustainable traditional use of resources;*
4. *Welcomes the progress made in the combat against threats to the property, in particular pollution, agricultural development and siltation of the lakes and requests the State Party to provide further information on these activities to ensure that:*
 - a) *Seed distribution to improve the production of market gardening does not lead to an introduction, intentional or accidental, of invasive species and that this risk is strictly controlled,*
 - b) *The installation of fencing to prevent the encroachment of the dunes does not impact negatively on the outstanding natural beauty of the property, as recognized by the inscription on the World Heritage List under criterion (vii);*
5. *Also requests the State Party to pursue its efforts in establishing a regular garbage collection system, to ensure that the improvement in the cleanliness of the property can be continued and maintained;*

6. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.

4. Lake Turkana National Parks (Kenya) (N 801bis)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late mission)

5. Kenya Lake System in the Great Rift Valley (Kenya) (N 1060rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2011

Criteria (vii) (ix) (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1060/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 1999-2006)

Total amount approved: USD 45,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1060/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Housing
- Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure
- Management systems/ management plan
- Renewable energy facilities

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1060>

Current conservation issues

On 29 January 2015, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1060/documents/>.

On 24 May 2014, the adoption of the Kabarnet Declaration established the Lake Bogoria National Reserve Management Committee, formally recognizing the Endorois as a community and the Endorois Welfare Council as their representative organization in the management of Lake Bogoria. The Management Committee, which includes the Endorois Welfare Council, is established as the key body dealing with issues related to the management of Lake Bogoria, including revenue allocation and benefit sharing.

Developments in a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions are presented in the report, as follows:

- Discussions are underway with UNESCO Eastern Africa Regional Office for financial support to implement community consultative workshops and mapping of possible boundary modifications at Lake Elementaita;
- A one-year moratorium for developments on the shores of Lake Elementaita has been postponed following consultative processes with, and stated compliance by, tourism investors;
- Royalties in the amount of USD 22,000 were paid by a bio-prospecting company to the local Endorois communities of Lake Bogoria under the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing;
- Geothermal prospecting and development within the property are not allowed, and the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for any geothermal energy developments that may occur outside of the property is emphasized;
- Tanzanian and Kenyan government authorities expressed their desire to conserve Lake Natron as an important habitat for migratory birds, especially the lesser flamingos, during their participation in the 2014 World Migratory Bird Day;
- It is stated that the State Party of Tanzania confirmed that a soda ash factory will not be constructed at Lake Natron;
- The State Party of Kenya is currently developing a Single Species Action Plan for lesser flamingos, which will enhance the cooperative management of Lake Natron and Shampole wetlands by the States Parties of Kenya and Tanzania.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The adoption of the Kabarnet Declaration should be welcomed, and the compensation paid to the local Endorois communities by a bio-prospecting company is noted. However, the State Party's report lacks further information regarding the implementation of the African Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) decision on the Endorois and its Resolution 197. A letter dated 19 February 2015 from Minority Rights Group International and the Endorois Welfare Council to the World Heritage Centre, while welcoming recent efforts by the State Party to engage with the Endorois, raises concern about the effectiveness in the implementation of the Endorois ruling and the level of transparency of decision-making processes, including expectations for future financial payments. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.91**, it is recommended that the Committee strongly urge the State Party to fully implement the ACHPR Endorois decision and Resolution 197 without delay, to ensure the full and effective participation of the Endorois in the management and decision-making of Lake Bogoria.

It is also welcomed that geothermal prospecting and development within the property are not allowed, and that any prospective geothermal energy developments outside the property will be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). It is recommended that the Committee requests the State Party to provide more information on the current status of the EIA procedure for these developments, including copies of EIAs that have already been undertaken.

The State Party of Kenya reports that the State Party of Tanzania had confirmed its decision not to construct a soda ash factory at Lake Natron. However, on 16 March 2015, the World Heritage Centre sent a letter to the State Party of Tanzania to verify a media report, which stated that the project had received approval from Tanzania's environmental regulatory authorities. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.91** and that Lake Natron is the most important breeding site for lesser flamingo in the world, the protection and conservation of which is of great importance to the integrity of the property, the State Party was requested, in the letter, to submit to the World Heritage Centre an EIA that includes a specific assessment of potential impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and was urged not to proceed with any activities until the EIA has been received and reviewed. At the time of drafting this report, no response had been received yet.

It is noted that the one-year moratorium for development around Lake Elementaita has been postponed for an unspecified duration, considering the stated compliance of tourism investors. In the absence of clarity on the current status of these developments, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide further information on the actions undertaken to address the Committee's request (Decision **38 COM 7B.91**) for the removal of any existing illegal developments and the ecological restoration of affected areas. It is also recommended that the State Party be requested to develop and implement strict and clear regulations to prohibit developments in close proximity to fragile habitats and in the critical buffer zone to the property.

It is also noted that a more detailed State Party report, including information on the management implications of the ACHPR Endorois decision and its Resolution 197, would enable the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to analyze the state of conservation of the property more profoundly. It is finally recommended that the Committee request the States Parties of Kenya and Tanzania to invite a joint World Heritage/IUCN monitoring mission to the property to review the status of riparian areas around Lake Elementaita, to assess the water pollution and management issues that were identified as key threats in the IUCN World Heritage Outlook 2014, to evaluate concerns raised around the engagement of the Endorois community in the management of Lake Bogoria, and to review the potential impacts of the soda ash plant development at Lake Natron.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.5

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.91**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Welcomes the adoption of the Kabarnet Declaration, which formally recognizes the Endorois as a community and the Endorois Welfare Council as their representative organization in the management of Lake Bogoria;
4. Also welcomes the State Party's confirmation that geothermal prospecting and development within the property are not allowed, and that any prospective geothermal energy developments outside the property will be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and requests the State Party to provide further information on the current status of the EIA procedure including copies of the EIAs that have already been undertaken;
5. Notes the payments made to the Endorois communities, and the letter from Minority Rights Group International and the Endorois Welfare Council to the World Heritage Centre raising concern about the effectiveness of the implementation of the Endorois ruling and the level of transparency of decision-making processes, and strongly urges the State Party to fully implement the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) Endorois decision and Resolution 197 without delay to ensure the full and effective participation of the Endorois in the management and decision-making of Lake Bogoria;
6. Also requests the State Party of Tanzania to provide detailed information on the development of the soda ash plant at Lake Natron, and also urges the State Party of Tanzania not to proceed with any activities until an EIA has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre and reviewed by IUCN;
7. Also notes that the one-year moratorium on development on the shores of Lake Elementaita has been postponed following the stated compliance by tourism investors, and further requests the State Party to provide detailed information on the actions taken to ensure the removal of any existing illegal developments and the ecological restoration of affected areas, and to develop and implement strict and clear regulations to prohibit developments in close proximity to fragile habitats and in the critical buffer zone to the property;
8. Requests furthermore the States Parties of Kenya and Tanzania to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to review the state

of conservation of the property, and the potential impacts of soda ash plant development at Lake Natron;

9. *Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

ARAB STATES

6. Socotra Archipelago (Yemen) (N 1263)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (State Party report on the state of conservation of the property not received)

ASIA-PACIFIC

7. Great Barrier Reef (Australia) (N 154)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

8. The Sundarbans (Bangladesh) (N 798)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1997

Criteria (ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/798/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2008-2008)

Total amount approved: USD 75,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/798/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

USD 32,590 from Switzerland following a Special Appeal by the Sector for External Relations of UNESCO.

Previous monitoring missions

December 2007: World Heritage Centre mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Governments of Bangladesh and India were encouraged to co-operate with interested parties and consider initiating actions that could eventually lead to the joint inscription of The Sundarbans World Heritage site of Bangladesh and the Sundarbans National Park World Heritage site of India as a single entry on the World Heritage List
- High level of salinity
- Project to explore "block 5" of the Sundarbans Reserve Forest for oil and gas (issue resolved)
- Loss of monitoring capacity due to cyclone damage
- Tiger poaching and unsustainable harvesting of timber and non-timber forest products

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/798/>

Current conservation issues

On 13 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/798/documents>. The report addresses a number of conservation issues raised by the Committee at its previous sessions, as follows:

- An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the dredging of the Pashur River has been completed, which is stated to include a specific assessment of potential impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
- A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the cumulative impacts of developments in the Sundarbans may be conducted;

- Mitigation measures have been assessed for the 1320 MW Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant project at Rampal in Khulna, which will be located 14 km north of the tip of the Sundarbans, and reported by the State Party to be 97 km away from the property;
- An ecological monitoring report for the power plant project has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre, but no ecological monitoring report for the property, requested by the Committee in Decision **35 COM 7B.11**, is provided.

The State Party also requested the World Heritage Centre to invite a delegation from Bangladesh to discuss the environmental issues and mitigation measures taken for the Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

It is noted that although the State Party has submitted the EIA for the proposed dredging project in the Pashur (Pussur *sic*) River, adjacent to the property, which is stated to include a specific assessment of the potential impacts on the property's OUV, no assessment of impacts on OUV was included in the document received by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN. It is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party not to begin activities related to the project until the assessment of potential impacts on OUV has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre and reviewed by IUCN.

The State Party reports that the 1320 MW Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant, which will consist of two units, each producing 660 MW, will be located 97km away from the World Heritage property. However, referring to the July 2013 EIA, it is noted that this is the distance from the plant to Hiron Point, and that the distances from the plant to the three wildlife sanctuaries, which make up the World Heritage property, are 65, 75 and 80km. It is noted that an SEA to assess the indirect and cumulative impacts from the power plants, has not been conducted, although this was requested in Decision **38 COM 7B.64**. It is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to undertake a comprehensive SEA, including a specific assessment of potential impacts on the OUV of the property. It is also recommended that the State Party be requested to provide further details on the mitigation measures taken for the project, taking the full findings of the SEA into consideration to inform its plans.

The ecological monitoring report for the period September to November 2014 for the power plant project has been submitted, but not for the property as requested by the Committee in Decision **35 COM 7B.11**. It is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to provide the results of the ecological monitoring programme for the World Heritage property without delay, ensuring that the impact of climate change on the OUV is included, as initially requested in Decision **33 COM 7B.12**.

Following the 9 December 2014 oil tanker accident in the Sundarbans, the World Heritage Centre requested further information in its letter to the State Party, dated 15 December 2014. A joint United Nations Development Programme / Government of Bangladesh mission took place between 23 and 27 December 2014, in order to strengthen the State Party's efforts to contain and clean up the oil spillage, as well as to assess the situation and develop a response and recovery action plan. The mission observed limited acute impacts to wildlife, but noted that long-term impacts require further research. It recommended further efforts to monitor the effect of the spill on the aquatic environment. It is acknowledged that the mission report identified the need to strengthen oil spill preparedness and response capacity in the future, and it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to take measures to prevent such accidents, drawing on the lessons learned. Noting the State Party's request for a meeting to discuss the environmental issues and mitigation measures taken for the Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant, it is finally recommended that the Committee request the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to review the state of conservation of the property, and the potential impacts of the thermal power plant development and dredging of Pashur River.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.8

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*

2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.64**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Notes that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the dredging of the Pashur River, adjacent to the property, did not include a specific assessment of the potential impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre an assessment of potential impacts on OUV, in accordance with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and to ensure activities are not conducted before the revised EIA is submitted to the World Heritage Centre and reviewed by IUCN;
4. Reiterates its request to the State Party to undertake a comprehensive Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in order to assess the indirect and cumulative impacts from the power plants and other developments in the vicinity of the property, including a specific assessment of potential impacts on its OUV;
5. Also requests the State Party to provide further details on the mitigation measures taken for the power plant project, which should fully consider the findings of the SEA;
6. Regrets that the ecological monitoring data for the property requested by the Committee in Decision **35 COM 7B.11** has not been provided, and urges the State Party to submit the results of the ecological monitoring programme for the property without delay, to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, ensuring that the impact of climate change on the OUV is documented, as initially requested in Decision **33 COM 7B.12**;
7. Further requests the State Party to continue monitoring the effects of the December 2014 oil spill on the aquatic environment, and to take measures to prevent such accidents, drawing on the lessons learned so as to strengthen its oil spill preparedness and response capacity, in particular in view of the anticipated increases in river navigation related to the power plant developments upstream;
8. Requests furthermore the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to review the state of conservation of the property, and the potential impacts of the thermal power plant development and dredging of Pashur River;
9. Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

9. Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Areas (China) (N 1083bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2003

Criteria (vii)(viii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1083/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1083/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

April 2006 UNESCO/IUCN joint Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2013 IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Apparent decline in wildlife populations
- Dams and related infrastructure
- Lack of clarity of property boundaries
- Mining
- Inadequate management planning, including tourism planning

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1083/>

Current conservation issues

On 26 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1083/documents>. The State Party highlights the following:

- It stresses the intricate linkages between environmental management, local development and poverty alleviation, as well as the legitimacy of development outside the property and its buffer zones;
- The notion of direct impacts of any of the 13 proposed dams in the vicinity of the property is rejected on the grounds of their location outside of the property and its buffer zones. It is further suggested that the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission had concluded that there were no “obvious direct impacts”;
- No dam construction, including preparatory works, has taken place prior to conducting or reviewing Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs);
- The West-East Electricity Transfer Project (WEEPT) is described as “too complex” for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be applied. Therefore, a SEA is foreseen for the province of Yunnan only, to be conducted by the Yunnan Institute of Environmental Sciences (YIES);
- No legal mining has taken place inside the property since the minor boundary modification approved in 2010, while 106 illegal mining operations have been shut down post inscription. The requested submission of maps displaying permits is therefore deemed unnecessary by the State Party.
- Wildlife monitoring to inform management, including where changes may be needed to the current management, is to be integrated in the above SEA.

While otherwise reporting in response to Committee decision **37 COM 7B.12**, no specific information is provided concerning the implementation of the recommendations of the 2013 IUCN Reactive

Monitoring mission. In terms of the requested management effectiveness assessment, the State Party mostly refers to management planning and intended consolidation thereof.

The State Party highlights significant investment in human resources, management and infrastructure since the inscription of the property and reaffirms its commitment to further strengthen management, mobilize additional human resources and control poaching.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The State Party's commitment to the property and the efforts to ensure coherent management of the 15 protected areas jointly forming the serial property of more than 900,000 ha are fully acknowledged.

In relation to the impacts of the dams on the property, it should be recalled that the *Operational Guidelines* repeatedly make reference to the potential impacts of development outside of properties and their buffer zones. A serial property inscribed under all natural criteria in particular raises questions of coherence and connectivity among and between the distinct components. Furthermore, the justification for criterion (vii), as confirmed by the retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), adopted by the Committee in 2011, states that the “*deep, parallel gorges of the Jinsha, Lancang and Nu Jiang are the outstanding natural feature of the property*” and “*the dominant scenic element in the area*”. Therefore, while there is no indication that dams or reservoirs are, or will be, located within the property or its buffer zones, concerns remain about impacts on scenic landscape values in addition to landscape connectivity, as was also expressed by the 2013 IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission. It should also be recalled that the mission visited dam sites where construction had started prior to EIA completion. The Wulongnong dam site is one example, where the mission had documented active construction, which is again confirmed in Annex 1 of the State Party report. Another example suggesting a lack of clarity is the Liyuan dam site, where the State Party reports construction, while simultaneously referring to pending EIA approval. Further conclusions about potential direct impacts need to be made on the basis of completed EIAs and further information about future transmission infrastructure. A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) should provide additional clarity in that regard. Fully appreciating the challenge to conduct a SEA at the level of WEEPT, the State Party's willingness to conduct an SEA at the level of Yunnan, as originally recommended by the 2013 mission, is welcome. The World Heritage Centre and IUCN continue to stand ready to facilitate advice and support to the State Party.

In terms of mining, it should be recalled that the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission found that prospecting licenses were granted between the Hongshan and Haba Snow Mountain components of the property, raising concerns about landscape connectivity. Therefore, the Committee's request for the State Party to provide maps of all licenses related to mining in the region surrounding the property continues to be relevant and should be followed up on.

While a comprehensive legal framework and many excellent elements of management planning and selective monitoring are in place, a comprehensive management effectiveness assessment (MEA) remains to be fully developed and conducted. Further details regarding what this may include are provided in the mission report. The anticipated inventory of wildlife as part of the SEA should provide a baseline for further systematic and regular wildlife monitoring.

While some progress has been made since the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission, it is noted that the State Party report provides little information on the implementation of all mission recommendations, and the requests made by the Committee at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013) remain valid, and still need to be fully addressed. This includes, in particular, full consideration of electricity transmission infrastructure, the abovementioned MEA and the unambiguous clarification of the exact location and surface area of all national protected areas, components and buffer zones of the property to enable updating of the partially inaccurate formal documentation of the property, following the appropriate procedures as stipulated in the *Operational Guidelines*. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to urgently address these issues and report on the progress made.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.9

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,

2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.12**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Welcomes the State Party's commitment to refrain from granting prospecting and mining licenses in the property and its buffer zones, to respond swiftly and decidedly to illegal mining and to intensify management efforts, including responses to poaching;
4. Also welcomes the State Party's readiness to conduct a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to better understand the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of the multiple projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and acknowledges that this is a challenging exercise for which limited guidance and relevant experience is available and which will require the development of an approach that is adapted to the local situation;
5. Reiterates its concern that the depth and quality of the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) appear to be incompatible with the scale and complexity of the planned hydropower development that may affect the property, and that preparatory construction has advanced in the absence of approved EIAs in several locations, as confirmed by the State Party in Annex I to its report;
6. Notes with concern the slow progress on the implementation of the remaining recommendations of the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission and urges the State Party to strengthen its efforts to:
 - a) Not proceed with project implementation prior to appropriate EIAs having been completed,
 - b) Submit maps of all licenses related to mining in the region surrounding the property, and including the area between the Hongshan and Haba Snow Mountain components of the property, to ensure that none overlap with the property,
 - c) Ensure and monitor ecological and landscape connectivity in the area between the Hongshan and Haba Snow Mountain components of the property, including areas included in prospecting licenses,
 - d) Urgently implement the remaining recommendations of the 2013 IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission, and in particular to:
 - (i) Give full consideration to the possible impacts of future electricity transmission infrastructure,
 - (ii) Develop and implement a comprehensive management effectiveness assessment (MEA),
 - (iii) Clarify the exact location and surface area of all national protected areas, components and buffer zones of the property and submit this information to the World Heritage Centre;
7. Requests the State Party, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre, IUCN and with both national and other international partners' support, to urgently develop and implement measures to address the threats to the property;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the progress made on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

10. Wulingyuan Scenic and Historic Interest Area (China) (N 640)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

11. Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (India) (N 338)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1985

Criteria (vii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1992-2011

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/338/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 1997-1997)

Total amount approved: USD 165,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/338/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount provided to the property: as of 2008, the property benefited from the UNF funded World Heritage India programme. Project interventions include: enhancing management effectiveness and building staff capacity; increasing the involvement of local communities in the management of the property and promoting their sustainable development; and raising awareness through communication and advocacy.

Previous monitoring missions

1992: IUCN mission; 1997: UNESCO mission; February 2002: IUCN monitoring mission; April 2005, February 2008, January 2011: World Heritage Centre / IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Forced evacuation of Park staff
- Poaching and logging
- Illegal cultivation
- Slow release of funds
- Invasive species
- Uncontrolled infrastructure development by local tourism groups
- Attempts by paramilitary group to set up base camps in the property

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/338/>

Current conservation issues

On 28 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/338/documents/>. Progress in addressing conservation issues previously identified by the Committee is reported as follows:

- Funding is available from the Manas Tiger Conservation Foundation (MTCF) and 2014-2015 Central Government funds have been allocated to the property in a timely manner. However, it is noted that fund release by the State Government remains inadequate and untimely;
- A detailed Rhino Conservation Plan (2014-2024) has been prepared for the management of the property's rhino population and is pending approval by State Government. Translocation of Swamp Deer has commenced, with 19 deer currently staying in an enclosure in Manas prior to their release;

- One rhino was poached in 2014. Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) patrolling has been introduced in the property to better monitor and control poaching. There are 343 frontline staff and 69 anti-poaching camps, and an increase of current staff levels has been proposed to Government;
- The Rhino Conservation Plan includes an Action Plan to combat encroachment at Bhuyanpara, which, while stated to be temporary and without settlements, is noted to be a recurring problem since 1990. Proposed actions include eviction of encroachers and deployment of an Eco-Task Force in February-March 2015, and a long-term plan for establishing nurseries and plantations outside the park to reduce human pressure on the property;
- In 2014, forest staff has carried out joint operations with the police and armed forces to secure the property, which has been repeatedly affected by civil strife. There have also been increased patrolling efforts and consultations with local communities to raise awareness and improve the relationship between the local population and the Forest Department. In addition, a high-level security committee for the protection of the property has been established, the members of which include senior police, civil and forest officials;
- Further progress is reported in terms of transboundary cooperation, eco-development initiatives, integrated ecosystem-based monitoring (including of invasive species), and tourism management.

The State Party of Bhutan did not submit the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the Mangdechhu hydro-electric project, including an assessment of potential impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and cumulative impacts in relation to the existing Kurichu dam, requested by the Committee in 2012 (Decision **36 COM 7B.10**).

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The funding provided to the property by MTCF is welcome. However, this remains a small portion of the total required budget, and the property remains inadequately funded. Although the Central Government allocated funds to the property in June 2014, as of February 2015 these had not yet been released by the State Government. It is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to ensure that all allocated funds are available to the property in a timely manner, as this is crucial to adequately addressing the threats it faces.

Although poaching persists, there has been a marked improvement in controlling this threat in 2014 with the introduction of SMART patrolling. Nevertheless, the report of a rhino Population Viability Analysis by the IUCN Conservation Breeding Specialist Group carried out in 2015 indicates that unless poaching is eradicated, continued reintroduction of rhinos is unlikely to result in a viable population in Manas, and rhino could become locally extinct within 30 years. Similarly, while progress with the reintroduction of Eastern Swamp Deer is welcomed, poaching needs to be brought sufficiently under control to ensure that the captive deer can be safely released into the property. It is recommended that the State Party is encouraged to increase the number of frontline staff as proposed under the Tiger Conservation Plan, and to take appropriate actions to improve staff morale and ensure their adequate equipment to protect the property from heavily armed poachers and insurgent groups. The establishment of a high-level security committee and other actions taken to address the civil strife are welcomed.

The encroachment at Bhuyanpara is considered a high priority issue that needs to be urgently addressed. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to confirm the successful implementation of short-term actions foreseen in February-March 2015 to address this encroachment, and to report on progress achieved in reversing current and preventing further encroachment through the implementation of long-term measures to meet the needs of local communities and garner their support for the property. The Kokilabari Seed Farm is considered a positive example for meeting the needs of local communities and garnering their support for the property, which could be replicated elsewhere near the property.

Invasive species are a long-standing threat that remains a significant concern. This is confirmed by the survey report on endangered grassland fauna provided by the State Party, which notes that the spread of some invasive tree species, such as *Bombax ceiba*, may be promoted by regular grassland fires. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to undertake a detailed study on the use of fire for grassland management, to ensure that its application does not further promulgate invasive species. A study undertaken by Aaranyak and the Assam Forest Department since November 2013

may provide some insight, however, that study targets only two invasive species which may respond differently to fire.

It is further recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party of Bhutan to submit a copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment of the Mangdechhu dam.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.11

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.65**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Welcomes the progress achieved by the State Party, particularly to secure the property and to address civil strife in the area, such as the establishment of a high-level security committee, engagement with local communities, and increased patrolling, including the introduction of SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) patrolling, and notes with appreciation that these actions appear to have resulted in a decrease of poaching in 2014;
4. Notes with concern the report by the IUCN Conservation Breeding Specialist Group indicating a high risk of local extinction of rhino within 30 years if poaching is not eradicated, and encourages the State Party to continue increasing its efforts to combat poaching in order to secure the property and its recovering Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), in particular the reintroduced rhino and eastern swamp deer populations, including by:
 - a) Increasing the number of frontline staff at the property,
 - b) Taking appropriate actions to boost forest staff morale, and
 - c) Ensuring adequate equipment of forest staff to protect the property from heavily armed poachers and insurgent groups;
5. Requests the State Party to confirm the successful implementation of proposed short-term actions to address the encroachment at Bhuyanpara Range, and to report on progress achieved in reversing current and preventing further encroachment through the implementation of long-term measures to meet the needs of local communities and garner their support for the property;
6. Also requests the State Party to undertake a detailed study on the use of fire as a tool for grassland management, in order to ensure that its application does not result in the further spread of some invasive species, and to allocate adequate funding to control the long-standing threat of invasive species in the property;
7. Also notes with concern that despite the successful operation of the Manas Tiger Conservation Foundation the property remains inadequately funded, as demonstrated by the slow release of funds by the State Government reported by the State Party, and strongly urges the State Party to ensure that adequate funding is available to the property in a timely manner, as this is crucial to the implementation of the abovementioned actions and to significantly address the threats to the property;
8. Reiterates its request to the State Party of Bhutan to submit a copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the Mangdechhu hydro-electric project, as per Decisions **36 COM 7B.10** and **38 COM 7B.65**, including an assessment of potential

impacts on the property's OUV and cumulative impacts in relation to the existing Kurichu dam, in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage advice note on Environmental Assessment;

9. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2016, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

12. Lorentz National Park (Indonesia) (N 955)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late complementary information)

13. Shiretoko (Japan) (N 1193)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2005

Criteria (ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1193/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1193/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

February 2008: joint World Heritage Centre/ IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Impact of river constructions including check dams and erosion control dams on salmon migration for spawning
- Other factors indicated in the 2008 Reactive Monitoring mission

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1193/>

Current conservation issues

On 21 January 2015, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1193/documents>. The report provides the following information in relation to issues previously noted by the Committee:

- Population recovery of the migrating group of Steller's Sea Lion in the Sea of Japan has led to the species being upgraded from Vulnerable to Near Threatened. However, the increased population size is also reported to be causing increased damage to fisheries. Culling of sea lions therefore continues based on a precautionary and adaptive approach, in order to avoid extinction risk to the species. The maximum allowable catch size has been increased from 257

in 2013/2014 to 516 in 2014/2015 for all of Hokkaido. However, the maximum allowable catch size for the Nemuro migrating group, which includes the property but is not limited to it, remains at 15;

- Monitoring of the status of salmonid migration and spawning, following modifications to 13 river structures built on five rivers in the property, was mostly completed by 2013 and the results are presented in Appendix 2 of the report. Further monitoring will take place for the periods 2013-2014 and 2019-2020;
- Despite indications of some positive impacts from modifications to the three check dams on the Rusha river, there are concerns that the recent degradation of the river bed downstream of these dams may have an adverse effect on upstream salmon runs, and that the fixation of water courses and the blockage of hyporheic flows caused by the dams reduces the number of spawning beds between them;
- No further modifications of dams on the Rusha river have taken place after the modifications of two upstream dams in 2006, but discussions are on-going on the possibility of further modifications, on the condition that a balance can be struck between improving salmon spawning and maintaining these dams' role in preventing damage from disasters to fixed net fishing grounds;
- The salmon and trout hatchery at the mouth of the Rusha river was removed in 2012.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The State Party's efforts to maintain a healthy population of Steller's Sea Lion are noted. Surveys of the wintering population of Steller's Sea Lion on the east coast of Shiretoko Peninsula from 2006 to 2014, as provided in the State Party report, indicate an overall population growth. However, the level of fluctuation is such that it is difficult to conclude whether or not a positive trend is currently being maintained, and a declining trend since the 2010/2011 season appears plausible. It is therefore recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to ensure that catch quotas are regularly reviewed and adjusted to maintain a stable to growing population of sea lions in the property, and in the wider seascape.

Noting that some positive impacts from the modifications of river structures are reported and consultation with local authority and communities are ongoing, there remains concern that the presence of check dams on the Rusha river, which is the most important salmon river system in the property, is having a negative impact on salmonid migration and spawning. These concerns are confirmed by the State Party in its report.

It is noted that the salmon and trout hatchery at the mouth of the Rusha river was completely removed in 2012, and that the road and bridge leading to the hatchery are not used by the public. Consequently, the role of the three check dams in disaster risk reduction is limited to the protection of a source of livelihood rather than human life. The benefits thus provided by these dams are outweighed by the impacts they are having on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property.

The interaction between marine and terrestrial ecosystems is an integral part of the OUV of the property, and a natural migratory and spawning behavior of salmonids is considered a vital part of that interaction. Therefore, it is recommended that the Committee raise concern about the lack of progress in the implementation of further modifications to the three dams on the Rusha river, and request the State Party to continue further modifications to these dams, including consideration of :

- the option of fully removing them, including the concrete below surface level, and
- fully decommission the road and bridge leading to the former hatchery, in order to restore normal hyporheic flow and to promote river braiding and meandering to improve salmonid spawning habitat.

Given the need for detailed technical discussion, it is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party and the IUCN SSC Salmonid Specialist Group to seek a consensus based on best available science regarding the most appropriate and practicable solution. The State Party may wish to consider inviting an IUCN Advisory mission to that end.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.13

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **36 COM 7B.12**, adopted at its 36th session (Saint-Petersburg, 2012),
3. Notes the State Party's efforts to maintain a healthy population of Steller's Sea Lion in the Sea of Japan and in the property, and urges the State Party to ensure that catch quotas are regularly reviewed and adjusted to maintain a stable to growing population of sea lions in the property, and in the wider seascape;
4. Notes with appreciation the reported positive impacts from the modification of river structures, however, notes with concern that no further modifications to the dams on the Rusha river have taken place as requested by the Committee at its 36th session in 2012 (Decision **36 COM 7B.12**), in particular in light of the State Party's noted concerns about negative impacts from these dams on the downstream river bed and the availability of salmonid spawning habitat;
5. Considers that a natural salmonid migration and spawning behaviour are vital for the property to serve as an "outstanding example of the interaction of marine and terrestrial ecosystems", and also considers that, with the removal of the salmon and trout hatchery at the mouth of the Rusha river in 2012, the benefits of the three check dams for disaster risk reduction are outweighed by their impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
6. Also urges the State Party to continue further modifications of these dams, including consideration of the option to fully remove them, in close consultation with the local authority and communities, in order to fully mitigate the impacts of the three dams on the Rusha river, to also consider the option of removing the concrete below surface level, and to fully decommission the road and bridge that lead to the former hatchery, in order to restore normal flow of surface and ground water, and to promote river braiding and meandering to improve salmonid spawning habitat;
7. Recommends the State Party and the IUCN SSC Salmonid Specialist Group to seek a consensus based on best available science regarding the most appropriate and practicable solution and to consider the possibility of inviting an IUCN Advisory Mission to the property to provide advice on these matters;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

14. Phoenix Islands Protected Area (Kiribati) (N 1325)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2010

Criteria (vii)(ix)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1325/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1325/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount provided to the property: USD 13,864 in 2008 through the Stakeholder Workshop for the Phoenix Islands nomination organized by UNESCO Office in Apia with the funding from France FIT and Italy FIT. USD 20,943 in 2008 to support the finalization of the nomination document.

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Illegal fishing and overfishing by licensed and unlicensed vessels
- Degradation of seamounts

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1325/>

Current conservation issues

On 2 February 2015, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1325/documents/>.

The report states that the Kiribati Cabinet adopted a decision to close, as of 1 January 2015, the entire area of Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA) to all commercial fishing. The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development (MFMRD) has been charged with the task to inform all distant water fishing companies about the closure and to ensure compliance. The State Party report includes images on vessel movements, with only few vessels sighted within the property and indicating that these were all passing at a cruising speed and did not engage in fishing. A new Management Plan has also been prepared for the property for the period of 2015-2020.

The State Party further reports that the Trust Fund currently has USD 5 million as a starting base which were contributed by Conservation International and the Government of Kiribati. The Trust Fundraising Framework developed in 2011 is guiding further fundraising activities with the goal to raise USD 25 million to fully capitalize the Trust and an intermediate goal of USD 13.5 million by 2014.

Beginning 2015, the Waitt Foundation and Oceans 5 Alliance agreed to provide USD 1 million per annum for 5 years to the Trust Fund for the implementation of the new Management Plan. The report submitted by the State Party provides details on the allocation of these funds to core management activities.

The State Party also reports that a Tuna Working Committee has been established to determine a mutually agreeable approach to estimating the amount to be provided to Kiribati as compensation for the full closure of PIPA. Based on the monitoring of patterns and revenues from tuna fishing in Kiribati Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), the Working Group will prepare an analytical report that will be finalized no later than five years after PIPA has been closed to tuna fishing.

The State Party further provides information on measures foreseen in the new Management Plan to address illegal activities, acknowledging that surveillance and monitoring constitute a significant challenge due to limited resources and remoteness and size of the property.

The State Party reports that presence of shipwrecks impacting on the reefs through release of iron into surrounding waters represents a threat to the property and asks for assistance with their removal.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The full closure of the entire area of PIPA to commercial fishing is a significant achievement and goes beyond the World Heritage Committee's requests to increase no-take zones. The action should be commended by the World Heritage Committee, as this represents an important step towards minimizing the threats from overfishing and degradation of seamounts in the property.

Surveillance and enforcement of the Kiribati Cabinet decision on the property remain a challenge due to its size and remoteness and the limited financing available. The progress achieved towards capitalization of the Trust Fund is noted, in particular the attraction of new international partners which should be commended. However, the overall available amount of funds for the management and surveillance of the property represents only a starting base and it is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to continue its efforts to fully capitalize the Fund consistent with the target and long-term goal established under the Fundraising Framework.

The detailed information provided by the State Party on surveillance and enforcement programmes illustrates involvement of other countries, particularly Australia, New Zealand, the United States of America (USA) and France, and other organizations, in the joint efforts to minimize illegal activities in the region. It is recommended that the Committee commend the State Party for the efforts achieved and request it to further strengthen its collaboration with the international community in view of increasing financial and human resources, capacity building and surveillance technology.

The request of the State Party for assistance with removal of shipwrecks impacting on the reefs in some parts of the property is noted. Additional information is required to fully understand the impacts on the property from the presence of shipwrecks and the process of removing them, in view of developing the most suitable measures to address the issue.

Information provided by the State Party on the recent change to the PIPA outer boundaries following boundary delimitation negotiations between the Government of Kiribati, the USA and Tokelau is noted. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit an official boundary modification for the property to ensure that the boundaries of the World Heritage property correspond to the adjusted boundaries of PIPA.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.14

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **36 COM 7B.13**, adopted at its 36th session (Saint-Petersburg, 2012),*
3. *Highly commends the State Party for its decision to fully close the entire area of Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA) from commercial fishing;*
4. *Notes the information provided by the State Party on the currently available funds in the Trust Fund, and urges the State Party to continue its efforts to fully capitalize the Fund as a matter of priority;*
5. *Welcomes the involvement of international partners into securing additional funding to cover management activities under the new Management Plan for the period 2015-2020;*
6. *Also commends the efforts undertaken by the State Party and its partners in the region to minimize illegal activities; however, noting the concern expressed by the State Party that surveillance and enforcement of the Kiribati Cabinet decision remain a challenge due to the size and remoteness of the property, strongly encourages the State Party to strengthen its collaboration with other countries and organizations, including exploring other potentially applicable technological options;*

7. Also notes the State Party's request for assistance with the removal of shipwrecks, and requests the State Party to provide further information on the impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property from the presence of these shipwrecks and the potential impacts associated with the various available techniques for their removal;
8. Further notes the information provided by the State Party on the recent boundary changes to PIPA following the boundary delimitation negotiations between the Government of Kiribati, the United States of America and Tokelau, and also requests the State Party to submit an official boundary modification for the property by **1 February 2016**;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, in particular on the progress achieved towards full capitalization of the Fund.

15. Chitwan National Park (Nepal) (N 284)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (mission foreseen late)

16. Puerto-Princesa Subterranean River National Park (Philippines) (N 652rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1999

Criteria (vii)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/652/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 1997-2001)

Total amount approved: USD 53,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/652/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

December 2014: IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Illegal occupation
- Need for a clear zoning scheme and regulations for appropriate tourism development within the property and its vicinity

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/652/>

Current conservation issues

An IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission visited the property in December 2014 (mission report available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/652/documents/>). No report was requested to the State Party by the Committee at its 38th session. The mission's findings are reported as follows:

- Demarcation on the ground of the boundary has resulted in an area of 21,826 ha, a slight reduction compared to the 22,202 ha defined in Presidential Proclamation No 212 of 1999;
- Land sales and illegal resort development are issues of ongoing concern. Requests for development approval within the property appear to be continuing. New constructions were observed in a number of locations;
- A clear zonation scheme is required for the management of existing resorts and regulation of new resort developments and of agricultural activities within and around the property. No apparent progress has been made in defining the zonation of the property;
- Significant progress had been made in the Survey and Registration of Protected Area Occupants (SRPAO), which was expected to be completed by December 2014. The SRPAO would subsequently allow for clarification regarding illegal occupants and on-going Certificate of Ancestral Domain Claims (CADC) within the boundaries of the property;
- The maximum number of allowable visitors per day has been increased from 900 to 1200, but remains below the limit of 1400 recommended in a study on the tourism carrying capacity of the property. The mission was provided with a summary of the study, but not the full report;
- A new wharf is proposed to replace the current wharf at Sabang, which would also act as a centre for tourism management;
- No integrated management plan for tourism appears to have been developed for the property despite significant and annual increases in tourist numbers. The State Party informed the mission that tourism management is being included in the revised Management Plan, which was to be completed by December 2014;
- While a significant improvement in management of the property appears obvious since the new park management took up office, management effectiveness remains an issue for the property;
- There have been no detected incidents of illegal wildlife trade and hunting in the property since the current management assumed office.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

It is recommended that the Committee commend the State Party for the significant progress made in the management of the property and in resolving land claims, including in completing the SRPAO. Recognizing that the resolution of land claims is a lengthy process, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to continue to address the related issues of illegal land sales and illegal resort developments, by developing regulations for appropriate tourism development, mapping current landownership, and continuing and strengthening efforts to engage with local communities to raise awareness and garner support for the conservation of the property.

Efforts by the management staff to control illegal activities including land clearing, illegal logging, and wildlife trade should also be noted. It is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to enhance inter-agency cooperation both at the provincial and national level of government to continue to address these issues, including through budgetary provisions to the management authority to facilitate increased staffing, patrolling and engagement with local communities.

It is noted that a clear zonation scheme and effective management of the property are key issues that underpin the majority of the threats reported to the Committee. It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to develop and implement a detailed management related zoning plan for the property, to allow for the current level and extent of legal occupation, designate appropriate areas for tourism, and ensure that areas of critical habitat are identified and provided with increased levels of protection. This should also include the definition of an appropriate buffer zone to ensure protection of the property.

It is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to take urgent measures to improve the property's management effectiveness, including providing adequate and secure human and financial resources, strengthening cooperation and coordination with all relevant agencies and stakeholders at provincial and national levels, and developing and implementing an integrated long-term tourism management plan. It is further recommended that the State Party be requested to submit the revised Management Plan for the property to the World Heritage Centre and IUCN for review.

Noting the reported proposal for a new wharf at Sabang, it is recommended that the State Party be requested not to proceed with this development until it has been subject to a rigorous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and until the EIA has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.16

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.70**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),*
3. *Commends the State Party for the significant progress achieved in improving the management of the property and in completing the Survey and Registration of Protected Area Occupants (SRPAO), which would allow for clarification of on-going land claims, and requests the State Party to submit the report of the completed SRPAO to the World Heritage Centre, along with a report outlining actions taken in the case of illegal occupants and or land sales;*
4. *Notes with appreciation the efforts made by the State Party and local management staff to control illegal activities, including land clearing, illegal logging and wildlife trade;*
5. *Notes that clear zonation and ensuring effective management are key to addressing the majority of the issues reported, and reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, an electronic and three printed copies of the revised management plan of the property;*
6. *Also requests the State Party to fully implement the recommendations of the 2014 IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission, notably:*
 - a) *Develop, finalize and submit, for review by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, a detailed management related zoning plan for the property, to allow for the current level and extent of legal occupation, designate appropriate areas for tourism and to ensure areas of critical habitat are identified and provided with increased levels of protection, including the definition of an appropriate buffer zone to ensure protection of the property,*
 - b) *Continue to address threats from land claims, illegal land sales and illegal developments within the property and resulting threats to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), including by:*
 - (i) *Developing regulations for appropriate tourism development within and adjacent to the property,*
 - (ii) *Mapping of current land ownership and use within the property to inform any approval of future land sales,*
 - (iii) *Continuing and strengthening efforts to engage local people in the process, to ensure awareness of the boundaries and zones of the property and*

garner support for its conservation, as well as an understanding of the legal basis for current efforts and enforcement decisions,

- c) *Take urgent measures to improve the property's management effectiveness, including:*
- (i) Provide adequate and secure resources including staff to the management authority to implement management actions,*
 - (ii) Strengthen cooperation and coordination with all relevant agencies and stakeholders at the provincial and national levels to contribute to the effective implementation of management actions,*
 - (iii) Address impacts from high intensity tourism by developing and implementing a detailed, integrated, extensive and long-term tourism management plan,*
- d) *Enhance and strengthen inter-agency cooperation, including between provincial and national level authorities, to continue to address the issues of illegal use of resources, transportation, and land sale, including through budgetary provisions to the management authority to facilitate increased staffing, patrolling and engagement with local communities and protected area occupants to garner their support for the continued conservation of the property and its OUV;*
7. *Urges the State Party not to proceed with the development of a new wharf at Sabang prior to a rigorous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) having been conducted, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and further requests the State Party, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, to submit to the World Heritage Centre a copy of the EIA for review by IUCN;*
8. *Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 **December 2017**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for review by IUCN.*

17. Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex (Thailand) (N 590rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2005

Criteria (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/590/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/590/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

February/March 2012: joint UNESCO/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; January 2014: IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Illegal activities (poaching and illegal logging)
- Road expansion, in particular regarding Highway 304
- Forest fragmentation, connectivity and the need for ecological corridors
- Encroachment
- Management Planning
- Tourism and visitor levels
- Dams
- Cattle grazing

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/590/>

Current conservation issues

On 20 February 2015, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, a summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/590/documents/>. The report presents the following information:

- Development of a five-year Action Plan on Prevention and Suppression of Illegal Logging and Trade (2014 – 2019) for the property. Since October 2013, 701 cases were detected, with 473 arrests made and 452.602 m³ of Siamese rosewood seized;
- Patrols are strengthened with the use of Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART), aerial patrols, and support from military and police;
- A regional dialogue with government representatives from Thailand, Cambodia, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Vietnam and representatives from the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) Secretariat, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), IUCN, and NGOs took place in Bangkok in December 2014. Areas for continued and increased cooperation in preventing illegal logging and trade in Siamese rosewood were identified, including the involvement of other regional and global bodies such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN), INTERPOL, and the World Customs Organization;
- The State Party is considering the feasibility of upgrading Siamese rosewood from CITES Appendix II to Appendix I;
- In 2014, 443 cases of encroachment were brought to prosecution. The court ordered the removal of buildings in 158 of these. The remaining 285 remain under investigation. A restoration plan (2015-2019) foresees the restoration of 20,000 ha of encroached land, including 2,100 ha in 2015;
- Work on widening the sections of Highway 304 that cross the property is expected to commence in 2015, including the construction of wildlife corridors. The construction of a tourist centre near these corridors is one of the proposed measures to ensure their effectiveness;
- A feasibility study and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) are currently being undertaken for the development of Highway 348, which crosses the property. No plans exist for the re-opening of Road 3426 in the property;
- Implementation of activities under the Environmental Impact Mitigation Plan for the Huay Samong Dam in 2014, and allocation of funding for such work in 2015. The transfer of responsibility for five existing dams to the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) is in process. DNP did not approve a feasibility study for the proposed Huay Saton Dam in the property, and the Royal Irrigation Department has been requested to consider alternatives outside the property;
- Illegal grazing has been significantly reduced, with as few as 30 remaining head of cattle reported.

Progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the 2014 IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission is also reported.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The on-going implementation of the Environmental Impact Mitigation Plan for the Huay Samong Dam is noted, and the transfer of responsibility for this dam and its reservoir to DNP was a key recommendation of the 2012 mission. The non-approval of a feasibility study for the proposed Huay Saton Dam within the property is welcomed.

The State Party's significant efforts to address illegal logging are commendable. The development of an Action Plan is welcomed, as is the involvement of other countries concerned. In annex II of its report, regarding the outcomes of these efforts, the State Party presents statistics for the fiscal year 2013-2014 (October 2013 – September 2014) and the first three months of fiscal year 2014 – 2015 (October 2014 – September 2015). As such, these statistics are not comparable, and do not enable an analysis of whether a significant reduction in the threat of illegal logging is being achieved. More time will be required to demonstrate results. It is therefore recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to continue its efforts, and that it request the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre comparable statistics on illegal logging of Siamese rosewood as soon as the fiscal year 2014 – 2015 is finished. It is recommended that the State Party be urged to provide information on any poaching of other wildlife species, which often occurs in association with illegal logging.

It is also recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to further increase the allocation of resources to park rangers in the property, in order to ensure that they dispose of sufficient patrol provisions, equipment and reinforced capacity to fight against heavily armed poaching groups. It is further recommended that the State Party is urged to ensure that maximum legal penalties are implemented in a consistent manner, in order to deter poaching.

Activities to address encroachment are noted, as is progress in the removal of illegal cattle. However, it appears that despite these efforts, encroachment and construction of new resorts continue. Also, while encroachment in Thap Lan National Park has received considerable attention, publicly available satellite imagery suggests that encroachment is also significant in Dong Yai Wildlife Sanctuary and Ta Phraya National Park, including along Highway 348 which crosses the narrow Ta Phraya National Park. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to increase its efforts to address the issue of encroachment throughout the property, including by imposing and enforcing a ban on the construction of new resorts within its boundaries.

The confirmation that Road 3426 will remain closed is welcomed. It is recommended that the State Party be requested to provide further information on the proposed development of Highway 348, including whether or not this will entail the construction of wildlife corridors as in the case of Highway 304, and a copy of the EIA which should include an assessment of impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment. It is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to ensure the effective implementation and rigorous monitoring of impact mitigation measures during the widening of Highway 304 and the construction of wildlife corridors, in order to minimize impacts on the OUV of the property. The construction of tourist centres in corridor areas may be inappropriate, as the increased human presence that would result could be counterproductive to the effectiveness of these corridors. It is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to collaborate with the World Heritage Centre to ensure that all tourism activities for the property are in line with the objectives of sustainable tourism management and to develop a sustainable tourism strategy for the property, using the new capacity building tools developed through the World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme to promote conservation and local community development.

Notwithstanding the commendable efforts of the State Party to address these issues, encroachment and poaching of rosewood remain significant and urgent threats to the property. More time is required to demonstrate whether the State Party's efforts are achieving the desired results in eliminating these threats. If they persist, these threats would represent a clear ascertained danger to the property's OUV in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.71**, whereby the Committee decided to consider the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger at its 39th session, it is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit a report on the state of conservation of the property for examination by the Committee at its 40th session, when the Committee should consider again whether the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger is warranted.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.17

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.71**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Commends the State Party for its efforts to prevent and suppress illegal logging in the property, including the development of an Action Plan, welcomes the international cooperation with Cambodia, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam in controlling illegal logging and trade of Siamese rosewood, and encourages the State Party to continue these efforts;
4. Notes the State Party's efforts to address encroachment and the construction of illegal resorts in the property, as well as progress achieved with the removal of illegal cattle;
5. Considers that more time is required to demonstrate whether the State Party's efforts are achieving the desired result of eliminating rosewood poaching, and requests the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre comparable statistics on rosewood poaching as soon as data are available for fiscal year 2014 – 2015, and to also provide information on any poaching of other wildlife species, which often occurs in association with illegal logging;
6. Urges the State Party to further increase the allocation of resources to park rangers in the property, in order to ensure that they dispose of sufficient patrol provisions, equipment and reinforced capacity to conduct enforcement operations against heavily armed poaching groups, and also urges the State Party to ensure that maximum legal penalties are implemented in a consistent manner, in order to deter poaching;
7. Notes with concern that encroachment and the construction of illegal resorts appear to continue despite the State Party's efforts, and that encroachment appears to be more widespread in other parts of the property than previously reported;
8. Also considers that if they persist, poaching of valuable timber and encroachment would clearly represent and ascertained danger to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in conformity with Paragraph 180 of the Operational Guidelines;
9. Also notes the on-going implementation of the Environmental Impact Mitigation Plan for Huay Samong Dam, and also welcomes the non-approval of a feasibility study for the proposed Huay Saton Dam within the property;
10. Further welcomes the State Party's confirmation that Road 3426 will remain closed, and also requests the State Party to provide further information on the proposed development of Highway 348, including information on whether the construction of wildlife corridors is foreseen, and a copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which should include an assessment of potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment;
11. Further requests the State Party to ensure effective implementation and rigorous monitoring of impact mitigation measures to minimize impacts on OUV from the widening of Highway 304 and the construction of wildlife corridors, and further urges the State Party to reconsider the planned construction of tourism centres in corridor

areas, in view of the potential of the resulting increased human presence to be counterproductive to the corridors' effectiveness;

12. Recommends that the State Party collaborate with the World Heritage Centre to ensure that all tourism activities for the property are in line with the objectives of sustainable tourism management, and also encourages the State Party to develop a sustainable tourism strategy for the property using the new capacity tools developed through the World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme to promote conservation and local community development;
13. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016, **with a view to considering, in the case of confirmation of the ascertained or potential danger to Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

18. Wood Buffalo NP (Canada) (N 256)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late information)

19. Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany (Ukraine, Germany, Slovakia) (N 1133bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2007

Criteria (ix)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1133/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1133/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

October 2014: World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of integrated Management Plan (in progress)
- Lack of transnational research and monitoring plans (in progress)
- Need for capacity building (in progress)
- Inadequate regulation and management of uses and activities (logging and hunting) in the Slovak part of the property

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1133/>

Current conservation issues

A joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission visited the Slovak components of the property in October 2014. The States Parties of Slovakia and Ukraine submitted state of conservation reports. All these reports are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1133/documents>.

The State Party of Slovakia reports the following:

- A “Joint Declaration of Intent between the relevant Ministries of Germany, Slovak Republic and Ukraine concerning the Cooperation on the Protection and Management of the property” was signed in May 2014 and the next session of the Joint Management Committee is planned for October 2015.
- An amendment of the Law on Nature Protection is in force since 1 January 2014.

- In 2014, a draft non-legislative Action Plan was prepared for the Poloniny National Park, which will be in use until the official Management Programme of the Poloniny National Park is developed and approved in 2016. There is an intention to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN advisory mission in 2015 to provide advice, inter alia, on the Management Programme plan for the Slovak components of the property. Within the process of the current on-going preparation of a proposal for extension of the property to other countries, the State Party of Slovakia is planning to explore options of reconfiguring its components and their buffer zones to ensure better management of the property. Addition of further components in Slovakia is also envisaged.
- The Ministry of Environment established the Slovak Joint Management Committee to deal with issues pertinent to the European Diploma of Protected Areas and the World Heritage property.
- An agreement was signed between the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The two Ministries are also jointly preparing alternative forest management solutions to ensure protection of the property's OUV.
- No development projects requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) are planned in the region.
- A Slovak – Norway project “Nature Protection as an opportunity for Regional Development, 2015 – 2017” (total amount 999.643 €).
- On 4 May 2015: training of local stakeholders on existing opportunities to support nature-friendly management of agriculture and forest land and rural development from EU Structural Funds.

The 2014 mission concluded that whilst the values of the Slovak components of the property had been relatively well preserved, an integrated management system that could address existing threats was still lacking. It also concluded that the current boundary design of the Slovak components does not adequately reflect its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

The report submitted by the State Party of Ukraine provides additional information on the preparation of the extension of the property to other countries and on the activities that have been undertaken by the States Parties involved.

On 23 March 2015 the State Party of Germany submitted information on a planned tourism infrastructure project aimed at improving visitors' safety at the King's Throne cliffs in the Jasmund National Park component of the property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The on-going cooperation between the States Parties of Germany, Slovakia and Ukraine and the signing of the *Joint Declaration of Intent* is worth commending, and it is recommended that the Committee encourage the States Parties to continue their cooperation.

Some progress has been achieved by the State Party of Slovakia in enhancing cooperation between the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the latter being responsible for forest lands within the boundaries of Poloniny National Park and Vihorlat Protected Landscape Area. The Cooperation and Collaboration Framework Agreement signed between the two Ministries includes a number of tasks to be jointly accomplished, including cooperation in the preparation and implementation of a management plan for the property. Unsustainable forest management practices within the Slovak components of the property have been one of the major concerns previously expressed by the Committee. Therefore, this represents a positive step towards finding a solution that would ensure protection of its OUV; particularly since the reactive monitoring mission noted that logging continued to pose threats to the OUV and integrity of the property and that, although no logging was taking place within the property, forest management plans applicable to some areas overlapping with the property provided for logging within its boundaries.

Despite a few positive steps, the absence of an integrated management framework for the Slovak part of the property and of management plans for its individual components raises concerns. Although a draft Action Plan has been prepared for the Poloniny National Park, it is a non-legislative instrument and a Management Programme for this component is yet to be prepared. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party of Slovakia to ensure that no logging operations are permitted within the Slovak components of the property until an integrated management framework for these components has been developed, in consultation with the States Parties of Germany and Ukraine, that

would provide an adequate level of protection for the OUV of the property and also take into account other international designations, such as Biosphere Reserve and European Diploma.

The reactive monitoring mission further noted that the current boundary design of the Slovak components does not provide adequate protection of the property's OUV. It is therefore recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party of Slovakia to develop a proposal for boundary modification of its components, taking into account the advice that will be provided by the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Advisory mission the State Party of Slovakia has expressed its intent to invite in 2015. It is also noted that the State Party of Slovakia intends to propose further components for inclusion in the property within the framework of the extension currently being elaborated of the existing trilateral site to other countries. It is therefore recommended that the reconfiguration of the existing Slovak components of the property be undertaken within that process to ensure consistency with the overall design of the transnational serial extension.

The reactive monitoring mission underlined the importance of involving local stakeholders in Slovakia into the process of the preparation of any key plans and management instruments which could help improve the recognition of the World Heritage values of the property among local communities.

IUCN has also reviewed the information provided by the State Party of Germany on the planned tourism infrastructure development in the Jasmund National Park and considers that this development would not pose a threat to the property's OUV.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.19

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.75**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),*
3. *Commends the States Parties of Germany, Slovakia and Ukraine for their cooperation concerning the protection and management of the property and for signing the Joint Declaration of Intent and encourages the States Parties to continue their efforts;*
4. *Welcomes the progress achieved by the State Party of Slovakia towards enhancing cooperation between relevant Ministries responsible for the management of Slovak components of the property, but notes with concern that an integrated management framework for the Slovak components of the property is still lacking and that forest management plans providing for logging apply to some areas within the property boundaries;*
5. *Endorses the recommendations of the 2014 reactive monitoring mission and requests the State Party of Slovakia to implement them;*
6. *Also requests the State Party of Slovakia to ensure that no logging operations take place within the property's boundaries until this issue is resolved through the development, in consultation with the States Parties of Germany and Ukraine, of an integrated management framework for the Slovak components of the property, focused on nature conservation and taking into account all international designations, such as World Heritage property, Biosphere Reserve and European Diploma;*
7. *Notes that the current delineation of the Slovak components of the property does not provide for adequate protection of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and further requests the State Party of Slovakia to develop a proposal for boundary modification of its components, in close cooperation with the States Parties of Germany and Ukraine, as well as other States Parties who are currently preparing a proposal for an extension of the property;*

8. *Takes note of the State Party of Slovakia's intention to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Advisory mission to provide advice on the management of the Slovak components of the property and on the development of a proposal for boundary modification;*
9. *Requests furthermore the State Party of Slovakia to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2016, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

20. Volcanoes of Kamchatka (Russian Federation) (N 765)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (State Party report on the state of conservation of the property not received)

21. Golden Mountains of Altai (Russian Federation) (N 768rev)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (State Party report on the state of conservation of the property not received)

22. Lake Baikal (Russian Federation) (N 754)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (State Party report on the state of conservation of the property not received)

23. Virgin Komi Forests (Russian Federation) (N 719)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (State Party report on the state of conservation of the property not received)

24. Lena Pillars (Russian Federation) (N 1299)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (State Party report on the state of conservation of the property not received)

25. Natural System of Wrangel Island Reserve (Russian Federation) (N 1023rev)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late information)

26. Doñana National Park (Spain) (N 685bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1994

Criteria (vii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/685/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/685/assistance/>

UNESCO extra-budgetary funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

1998: World Heritage Centre Advisory mission; 1999, 2001, 2004: joint World Heritage Centre, IUCN and Ramsar missions (Doñana 2005 expert meetings on Hydrological Restoration of Wetlands); January 2011: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission and Ramsar Advisory mission; January 2015: IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Toxic pollution after mining accident in 1998
- Agriculture impacts
- Potential threats from accidental oil spills
- Potential impacts from infrastructural projects
- Water issues and water quality
- State of the Guadalquivir River and dredging project
- Crop production
- Major linear utilities
- Non-renewable energy facilities
- Oil and gas
- Pollution of marine waters
- Water (extraction)
- Water (rain/water table)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/685/>

Current conservation issues

An IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission visited the property, from 14 to 17 January 2015. Subsequently, on 2 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, a summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/685/documents/>, together with the mission report. Information on a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions is presented in those reports as follows:

- Dredging to deepen the Guadalquivir River has not commenced and the State Party restates that the World Heritage Centre will be kept informed of any development;

- A Working Group for the Special Management Plan of the Irrigation Zones located to the North of the Forest Crown of Doñana has been established to prioritize the development of the Guadalquivir Water Plan, which is currently in planning stage two; and a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Guadalquivir Basin has been integrated into the hydrological planning of the river;
- Functional reclamation of Caño Travieso in 2012-2014 has restored the flow of the Guadiamar River through the marshes in the northern zone of the National Park for the first time in over half a century, and is already attracting bird species, such as flamingos, ducks and cranes;
- The Government of Andalucía temporarily suspended issuing a Unified Environmental Authorization to Gas Natural Fenosa for gas extraction and storage projects in the immediate vicinity of the property with the potential to impact its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), in order to request a more detailed evaluation of the potential cumulative impacts;
- One international bid has been received for the exploitation of the Aznalcóllar mine, and the State Party emphasizes the need for a rigorous environmental impact evaluation, and restates that the proposal must not include the construction of a slurry hopper or toxic waste disposal.

In a separate letter, dated 25 March 2015, the State Party advised the World Heritage Centre of a statement, issued by the Supreme Court, to declare null and void the dredging project of the Guadalquivir River.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

It is noted that on 26 February 2015, the Supreme Court of Spain announced that the dredging project to deepen the Guadalquivir River cannot be included in the River Basin Plan. It is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to make a permanent commitment to cancel the project and not permit any future dredging to deepen the Guadalquivir. Currently, the mission does not recommend the property's inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, but recommends that the Committee strongly encourage the State Party to make this permanent commitment to cancel the project and not permit any future plans to deepen the Guadalquivir River.

It is noted with appreciation that the State Party announced its decision, in line with Decision **38 COM 7B.79**, to temporarily suspend the issuing of a Unified Environmental Authorization for gas extraction and storage projects, which are proposed outside of the World Heritage property but fall within the Doñana Natural Park, until an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) with a detailed evaluation of the potential cumulative impacts is prepared.

The Working Group for the elaboration of the Special Management Plan aims to introduce initiatives that will transfer 15 hm³ of surface water to agricultural areas to the north of Doñana Forest Crown. It is recommended that the State Party be requested to submit to the World Heritage Centre the Plan and an EIA, which should include an assessment of potential impacts to the property's OUV, and to consider the ecological demands of Doñana National Park. Furthermore, recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.79**, it is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to provide a detailed update on the reported increase in water use for rice paddies upstream of the property and reported dam construction on the Guadiamar River.

In 1998, a large holding pool of the Aznalcóllar mine burst, resulting in a toxic spill that significantly affected the areas adjoining the property, hence any decision to re-open the mine is of utmost concern. As it has been made public on the website of the Government of Andalucía, the company México-Minorbis Group has been proposed by the Technical Committee and the Board of Trade as the international mining company to reopen the site of Aznalcóllar, and hence as recognized by the mission, it is recommended that the Committee strongly urge the State Party to ensure that potential impacts to the OUV of the property including, but not limited to, those arising from the use of water by the mine, are assessed in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and to ensure that a clear risk preparedness plan and associated resources are in place to enable a rapid response in the case of any accidents.

The findings of the assessment of the condition of the aquifer by Guadiamar River Basin specialists are noted, which concluded that despite annual climatic variations, recharge was stable overall, with some areas even showing a rising trend in groundwater levels. It is nevertheless also noted that the mission reported differing views on this matter and that further research is required to confirm the findings and monitor the state of the Doñana aquifer.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.26

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.79**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Welcomes the decision by the Supreme Court of Spain to cancel the dredging project to deepen the Guadalquivir River, and urges the State Party to make a permanent commitment to cancel the project and not permit any future plans to deepen the Guadalquivir River;
4. Notes with appreciation the temporary suspension to the issuing of a Unified Environmental Authorization for gas extraction and storage projects in the immediate vicinity of the property, until an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) with a detailed evaluation of the possible cumulative impacts is prepared, and strongly urges the State Party to ensure that the potential impacts of those projects to the OUV and integrity of the property are thoroughly assessed, in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment;
5. Notes with utmost concern that the company México-Minorbis Group has been proposed by the Technical Committee and the Board of Trade as the international mining company to reopen the site of Aznalcóllar, and therefore also urges the State Party to ensure that a clear risk preparedness plan and associated resources are in place prior to the commencement of mining operations, in order to enable a rapid response in the case of any accidents, and that the potential impact on the OUV of the property is also fully assessed;
6. Also notes that a Working Group has been established for the elaboration of the Special Management Plan of the Irrigation Zones to the North of the Forest Crown of Doñana, and requests the State Party to submit the Plan and an EIA to the World Heritage Centre, which fully considers the possible impact on the property's OUV and ensures the ecological needs for the conservation of Doñana National Park are met;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to provide a detailed update on the reported increase in water use for irrigation of rice paddies upstream of the property and reported dam construction on the Guadiamar River and also requests the State Party that further research is conducted to confirm the state of the Doñana aquifer as noted during the mission, and that regular monitoring of the Doñana aquifer be ensured;
8. Further requests the State Party to implement all the recommendations of the 2015 IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

27. Cerrado Protected areas : Chapada dos Veadeiros and Emas National Parks (Brazil) (N 1035)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

28. Talamanca Range-La Amistad Reserves / La Amistad National Park (Costa Rica/Panama) (N 205bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1983

Criteria (vii)(viii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/205/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 9 (from 1982-1997)

Total amount approved: USD 276,350

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/205/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 30 000 from the Rapid Response Facility

Previous monitoring missions

February 2008: World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; December 2011: World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; January 2013: IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Construction of hydroelectric dams near the property in Panama and associated effects (greater human presence near the property, interruption of aquatic species migratory corridor)
- Encroachment (settlements, cattle ranching)
- Planned road construction, which would traverse the property on the side of Panama

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/205/>

Current conservation issues

On 4 February 2015, a joint report on the state of conservation of the property was submitted by the States Parties of Costa Rica and Panama, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/205/documents/>.

The report confirms that the construction of the Bonyic hydroelectric project continued and that the dam was completed in December 2014. The plant is currently in operation testing phase and the report notes its compliance with mitigation and compensation measures of the Environmental Management Plan. A system is in place to monitor potentially affected freshwater fauna in the long term and mitigation measures have been developed for some affected fish species. Progress is reported in resolving social conflicts associated with the project which was opposed by members of the Naso community. However, unresolved issues remain, which are not clarified further. Mitigation

measures have also been developed for the CHAN75 hydroelectric project and monitoring of some migratory fish species is on-going.

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for a new hydropower plant (Chan II), also located on the Changuinola river, was approved in 2013. The report notes that the project is located within the Palo Seco Protected Forest and recognizes that the project would result in cumulative impacts to both aquatic and terrestrial fauna in the property, as well as involuntary resettlements of local communities. On 20 and on 30 March 2015, the State Party provided additional information on the project, stating that it has been provisionally suspended and is currently being reconsidered by the ANAM (Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente) following changes in the design of the project proposed by EGESA (La Empresa de Generación Eléctrica, S.A.) that could potentially decrease negative impacts on the Palo Seco Protected Forest.

Further information is provided on progress with the implementation of other requests of the Committee:

- The management plans of the Costa Rican and Panamanian components of the property are reported to have a high degree of harmony; however, further work is required to harmonize zoning systems;
- Both in Costa Rica and Panama, on-going localized animal husbandry within the property is reported, but the situation has stabilized and no increase in these activities has been recorded;
- No EIA for any road infrastructure that would run through the property have been registered;
- The State Party of Panama acknowledges the lack of personnel caused by budget reductions and is working on strategies to involve the private sector, specifically the companies of the two existing hydroelectric projects, to increase the number of staff.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The information provided by the States Parties which shows that several threats affecting the property (cattle grazing, road construction) have not further increased is encouraging. Progress in trans-boundary collaboration also needs to be commended, even though the States Parties note the lack of personnel to carry out regular joint patrols, as well as the need to involve other government agencies in the activities within the border area.

On the other hand, the on-going hydropower development in Panama raises significant concerns. Despite the Committee's request to suspend the Bonyic project until a comprehensive Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the property has been prepared, which was expressed in Decision **34 COM 7B.32** and reiterated in Decision **37 COM 7B.31**, the dam was completed in December 2014. Although a preliminary SEA was completed in 2012, no significant progress has been achieved towards development of a comprehensive SEA for the property. Furthermore, despite the Committee's request "*not to permit any further development of hydro-energy projects (...) within or directly adjacent to the property*", the Changuinola II project was approved in 2013. The additional information provided by the State Party of Panama in March 2015 states that the project is currently being reconsidered by ANAM (Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente) following proposed changes in the project design which could potentially decrease negative impacts on Palo Seco Protected Forest. However, noting that the state of conservation report submitted by the States Parties concludes that this project would imply cumulative impacts on both aquatic and terrestrial fauna and would directly affect two indigenous communities, it is essential that such a review of the project is guided by a comprehensive SEA for the property which needs to be prepared as a matter of urgency and that all projects with potential impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) are suspended until it is completed. A clear need for a comprehensive SEA is even more evident when considering the 2014-2028 national electricity plan of Panama which not only includes the Changuinola II plant, but also mentions another potential hydroelectric project on Rio Teribe (currently an intact river, originating from the property) as "under study". It is recommended that the Committee urge the States Parties to develop such a SEA in order to guide the development of any hydroelectric and other large-scale infrastructure projects to ensure that such projects do not have a negative impact on the OUV of this transboundary property. Any development of new hydropower projects prior to the finalization of the SEA would represent a clear potential danger to the OUV and integrity of the property and should therefore lead to the consideration of the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Development of mitigation measures for existing hydroelectric projects is welcome; however, these measures, based on individual species, cannot compensate for the impact caused by damming of the rivers to the overall assembly of fresh-water species. Establishment of a long-term monitoring system for some freshwater species is a welcome initiative which should help evaluate the extent to which the mitigation measures are effective. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party of Panama to submit with its next state of conservation report the preliminary results of these monitoring programmes, as well as a comprehensive assessment of the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.28

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.30**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the States Parties for the progress achieved in strengthening transboundary cooperation and reducing the threats to the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) originating from encroachment of agriculture and cattle grazing and potential road construction;*
4. *Strongly regrets that, despite the Committee's previous decisions, construction of the Bonyic dam has been completed without prior consideration of the results of a comprehensive Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), and urges the States Parties to develop such an assessment as a matter of priority, based on the results of the preliminary SEA completed in 2012, and in consultation with IUCN, if necessary;*
5. *Notes with concern the impacts on freshwater biodiversity in at least two watersheds (Changuinola and Bonyic), and requests the State Party of Panama to ensure that the results of the developed monitoring programmes guide adequate measures to minimize biodiversity loss;*
6. *Considers that any development of new hydropower projects prior to the finalization and adequate review of the SEA would lead to the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
7. *Also notes with concern that a new hydropower project on the Changuinola river (Chan II) was approved in 2013 which the States Parties report would result in further cumulative impacts on both aquatic and terrestrial fauna and implies risks of social conflicts with local communities and, noting the reported current review and reconsideration of the project following the proposed changes in its design, also urges the State Party of Panama not to resume this project, until:*
 - a) *the SEA for the property has been completed to guide the review of the project,*
 - b) *the project has been subject to an independent Environmental Impact Assessment, including a specific assessment of potential impacts on the OUV of the property in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment,*
 - c) *due process has been ensured to achieve Free, Prior and Informed Consent by indigenous communities having territorial rights in the affected lands;*
8. *Also requests the States Parties to implement all other recommendations of the 2013 IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission;*

9. *Further requests* the States Parties to invite an IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to evaluate the progress achieved with the development of the SEA and to provide necessary technical advice and to assess the effectiveness of the mitigation measures developed for Bonyic and CHAN-75 projects;
10. *Requests furthermore* the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including an assessment of the effectiveness of the developed mitigation measures for the existing hydroelectric projects, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016, **with a view to considering, in case of the confirmation of ascertained or potential danger to Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

29. Area de Conservación Guanacaste (Costa Rica) (N 928)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

30. Morne - Trois Pitons National Park (Dominica) (N 814)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

31. Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve (Mexico) (N 1290)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

MIXED PROPERTIES

AFRICA

32. Ecosystem and Relict Cultural Landscape of Lopé-Okanda (Gabon) (C/N 1147rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2007

Criteria (iii) (iv) (ix) (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1147/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2002-2006)

Total amount approved: USD 38,600

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1147/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

January 2015: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of management structure to deal with the cultural values of the property
- Need for training of conservation managers
- Road Development and project of optical fibre

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1147/>

Current conservation issues

A joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission visited the property from 10 to 17 January 2015. Subsequently, on 31 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report. Both reports are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1147/documents>.

These reports provide the following information:

- The State Party acknowledges that work to upgrade National Highway 3 through the property could impact adversely on its integrity. The mission was informed of an agreement to abandon upgrading of the national road across the property and instead to create a diversion to the north. Four alternative routes have been considered, one on the edge of the buffer zone and all in archaeologically sensitive areas. The mission considered that this critical decision will ensure the preservation of the dense cluster of archaeological and rock art sites along the cultural landscape of the Ogooué River valley;
- The mission considered that impacts from the fibre optic project on unidentified archaeological sites are limited;
- Surveillance efforts are concentrated in sensitive areas, mainly associated with infrastructure (both existing and under development) in the Northeast of the property and with forest concessions to the West. However these efforts are constrained by the limited number of forest guards (14) ;

- Surveillance also takes into account all archaeological sites in the buffer zone of the park. The State Party planned to assign three archaeologists in the property to enhance the management capacity for cultural heritage. These staffs were not yet appointed at the time of the mission.

The mission made the following additional observations:

- Poaching and ivory trade are the primary threats to the property's fauna, especially to the Northeast of the property and near forest concessions where logging roads have facilitated access to previously intact forests;
- A draft management plan for 2013-2017 is pending approval;
- On average five elephants and/or buffalos get killed in train accidents each year;
- Latest available data from 2006 indicate abundant and stable populations of the key species of the property, i.e. elephants, apes and duikers;
- The lack of jobs in the property and in the surrounding forestry concessions are contributing to a rural exodus, which exacerbates conflicts between conservation of the park and the activities of local communities;

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies

The decision to create a bypass for National Highway 3 to the north of the property is to be welcomed. This should ensure the protection of the extensive archaeological and rock art sites along the cultural landscape of the river Ogooue Valley. Given the highly sensitive archaeological areas through which one of the four route options might pass, it is essential that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is carried out to evaluate the best route and identify measures to mitigate impacts. There is also a need for a detailed database and active protection of archaeological and other cultural sites.

Furthermore, the mission recommended that the existing road should be rehabilitated, as a secondary road for local traffic, to maintain transport connections for local communities, and measures put in place to limit the use by heavy traffic of the road crossing the property.

The mission considered that although the threats from the fibre optic project to unidentified archaeological sites are limited, surveillance measures for cultural property should be undertaken and a high priority should be given to staff training. Both the fibre optic and the road projects will require particular management attention during their implementation. However, it should be noted that the number of staff has significantly reduced between 2006 and 2014. This lack of personnel, which is already preventing adequate surveillance to respond to the threat of poaching, should be addressed before the commencement of these projects, as their implementation would increase the risk of poaching. It is therefore recommended that the World Heritage Committee urge the State Party to ensure that adequate professional staff are in place and that existing staff are given adequate training in cultural heritage matters. Furthermore, the pending Management Plan for 2013-2017 needs to be approved and implemented as soon as possible and its recommendations addressed – particularly those related to staff structures.

The economic situation in the region around the property, which is marked by a rural exodus and a lack of jobs, further aggravates the threat of poaching. It is therefore recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to formulate a comprehensive economic development project for the property and its surroundings.

In relation to the observed regular occurrence of elephant and/or buffalo deaths from train accidents, it is recommended that the National Parks Agency (ANPN) is encouraged, in collaboration with the railway company, to urgently put in place a mechanism to prevent these accidents.

Available data on wildlife populations and trends are out-dated, and will require updating in order to enable a more accurate assessment of wildlife numbers and trends in the property to better track and respond to impacts of poaching.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.32

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*

2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.59**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Commends the decision of the State Party to progress a bypass for National Highway 3 to the north of the property; however, notes that the four possible route options might pass through sensitive archaeological areas, and urges the State Party to undertake a detailed Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) in line with ICOMOS' guidance on HIAs, including an assessment of impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, as a means of exploring the optimum route and ways to mitigate impact, and to submit this HIA to the World Heritage Centre as soon as it is available;
4. Also urges the State Party to identify options to rehabilitate the existing road through the property as a secondary road for local traffic to maintain adequate transport connections for local communities, to assess potential impacts on OUV, and to put in place measures to limit the use of this road by heavy traffic;
5. Considers that both the road and the fibre optic projects increase the risk of poaching, which is the primary threat to natural values of the property, and further urges the State Party to address the lack of personnel in order to ensure adequate surveillance;
6. Notes with concern that little progress has been made in increasing cultural heritage staff, and requests the State Party to provide training in cultural heritage management to existing staff, and to establish a detailed database and active protection of archaeological and other cultural sites;
7. Urges furthermore the State Party to finalize and approve the 2013-2017 management plan and implement it as soon as possible, in particular its provisions related to staff structure;
8. Also notes with concern that the economic situation at the property, which is marked by a rural exodus and a lack of jobs, is aggravating conflicts between the park and local communities, and encourages the State Party to develop a comprehensive economic development project for the property and its surroundings;
9. Also requests the State Party to update wildlife monitoring data in order to assess current populations and trends of key species, and to better monitor and respond to the impacts from poaching;
10. Also encourages the National Parks Agency (ANPN), in collaboration with the railway company, to urgently put in place a mechanism to prevent recurring train-wildlife accidents;
11. Further requests the State Party to implement all the other recommendations of the 2015 mission, in particular:
 - a) Implement the recommendations for the development of the engravings at the Doda Site and the eco-museum, and continue to reflect on the valorisation of other cultural sites,
 - b) Undertake a mission to sites with rock engravings to examine any change and the conditions of their preservation,
 - c) Put in place a mechanism to systematically control the movements of people and vehicles during the entire duration of the works on the optic fibre project, and foresee awareness raising session and communication sessions to raise the awareness of project staff about the fragility of the area;

12. *Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2016, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

33. Maloti-Drakensberg Park (Lesotho / South Africa) (C/N 985bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2000, extension in 2013

Criteria (i) (iii) (vii) (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/985/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2014-2014)

Total amount approved: USD 20,736

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/985/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

Threats identified at the time of the extension in 2013 (Decision **37 COM 8B.18**) included:

- Need for further research and documentation to establish an inventory of rock art in Sehlabathebe National Park
- Need for study of the potential cultural contribution of other landscape elements to the cultural values of Sehlabathebe National Park
- Need to strengthen the Lesotho heritage management, including adoption of a comprehensive management plan, annual budget allocation, risk preparedness and disaster response plan, monitoring indicators and staff training
- Continuation of a cautious approach to conservation interventions on rock art sites (except where rock art would otherwise become very fragile and vulnerable)
- Need to improve presentation of cultural aspects, in particular the San rock art sites within the Environmental Centre
- Proposed development of wind farms in areas neighboring the Sehlabathebe National Park (issue resolved)
- Revisions, amendments and enactment of relevant laws pertinent to the property not yet finalized in Lesotho
- Buffer zones surrounding the property not yet formalized
- Need to strengthen transnational collaboration

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/985/>

Current conservation issues

On 28 January 2015, the States Parties submitted a joint state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/985/documents/>. Progress in a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions is presented in the report as follows:

- The State Party of Lesotho has engaged the University of Witwatersrand to undertake research on rock art, building on the Analysis of Rock Art in Lesotho (ARAL) project and has committed to using the resulting inventory as a basis for future designation of national historic sites and for monitoring and state of conservation reporting;
- The National University of Lesotho has been appointed to conduct a study on the potential cultural contribution of landscape elements, encompassing both ethnographic research and oral history;
- Staff training related to rock art has commenced and will be extended through the above-mentioned research projects;
- The State Party of Lesotho has confirmed that there will be no implementation of any immediate conservation interventions in any of the rock art sites, pending completion of state of conservation assessment;
- Engagement efforts have been initiated with local communities in the buffer zones;
- The State Party of Lesotho is undergoing a development of the Biodiversity Resources Management Bill as a matter of high priority;
- The Maloti-Drakensberg Park Joint Management Plan, which incorporates the management of Sehlabathebe and uKhahlamba Drakensberg sites from both a natural and cultural World Heritage perspective, has been updated and is awaiting approval;
- The States Parties have commenced updating the cultural heritage management plan, which will incorporate risk preparedness and disaster response plans;
- The State Party of Lesotho has advised that a budget will be provided for upgrading of the Environmental Centre exhibitions, consequent on the outcomes of the rock art research project;
- A buffer zone area, to the south of Sehlabathebe National Park on South African land, has been identified and extensive consultations are ongoing to formalize its status. The State Party of South Africa has additionally developed a draft buffer zone regulation to give effect to the buffer zone, once it has been formalized;
- Transnational collaboration projects and workshops to share technical capacity on a variety of issues and to ensure improved management capacity within Sehlabathebe National Park have been implemented.

The report also notes that the State Party of South Africa is conducting a feasibility study for the proposed cable car near the property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies

The commitments of the State Party of Lesotho, firstly to the preparation of a credible and comprehensive inventory of rock art, based on thorough research and documentation, and secondly to the forthcoming study on the potential cultural contribution of landscape elements, are both fundamental to understanding the cultural attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). These projects need to be completed expeditiously, to facilitate evaluation of the state of conservation, to ensure effective heritage management and to guide appropriate presentation.

Some progress has been made, and further initiatives are proposed, with respect to training of staff within the Sehlabathebe management base. Staff training has also been included within the terms of reference for the rock art research and inventory project. However, more extensive training is required in the immediate future, so that there will be adequate capacity within the State Party to implement the outcomes and recommendations from the research and inventory work.

Both research projects and the forthcoming training initiatives warrant high priority and expeditious implementation. Adequate resources should continue to be made available until the inventory, landscape elements study and additional training, as well as the implementation processes, which flow from their preparation, are complete.

At this stage, it is appropriate that the moratorium on conservation interventions to any of the rock art sites continues, pending completion of the inventory and provision of additional training.

The development of the Biodiversity Resources Management Bill – a more comprehensive version of the Nature Conservation Bill 2005 – is ongoing as a high priority, which is welcomed. It is also noted

with appreciation that any major development projects around the property would be subject to impact assessment and discussions under the trans-boundary coordination structures.

The States Parties' report does not address issues relating to invasive alien species and fire, in response to the Committee's request that invasive species and fire management be addressed jointly by Lesotho and KwaZulu-Natal (Decision **37 COM 8B.18**).

The World Heritage Centre sent a letter dated 14 February 2014 to the States Parties of Lesotho and South Africa, to request clarification on the information received regarding a proposal to construct a cableway in close proximity to the property. In its letter, the World Heritage Centre placed emphasis on the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for all proposals to assess impacts on the OUV of the property, including its integrity. The State Party of South Africa submitted a letter of reply to the World Heritage Centre on 16 April 2014, stating that a feasibility study had been initiated and confirmed that an EIA will be conducted and that the World Heritage Centre would be informed of the EIA findings. The need for the EIA to include a detailed Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) should be noted.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.33

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 8B.18**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Welcomes the commencement, by the State Party of Lesotho, of new research and documentation of rock art within Sehlabathebe National Park, building on the Analysis of Rock Art in Lesotho (ARAL) project, as well as the study on the landscape elements, encompassing both ethnographic research and oral history, in order to identify their potential contribution to Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and encourages the State Party of Lesotho to ensure that this essential work receives high priority and adequate ongoing resources, and requests the State Party of Lesotho to submit the outcomes to the World Heritage Centre, for review by ICOMOS;*
4. *Notes the State Party of South Africa's agreement to carry-out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed cableway, and requests that it should include a detailed Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment and ICOMOS' Guidelines on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties, and also requests the State Party of South Africa to submit a copy of the completed assessment to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;*
5. *Also welcomes the cooperation of both States Parties in updating the Maloti-Drakensberg Joint Management Plan from both a natural and cultural World Heritage perspective, and urges the States Parties to ensure that invasive alien species and fire management are adequately addressed in the Joint Management Plan; including provisions for ensuring the resources required for the implementation of these measures;*
6. *Further welcomes the progress regarding transnational collaboration and efforts towards establishment of a buffer zone area to the south of Sehlabathebe National Park, and further requests the States Parties to submit a minor boundary modification to the World Heritage Centre to recognise the buffer zones, as soon as they have been formalized;*

7. Notes with appreciation that some progress has been made, and that further initiatives are proposed, in training of staff within the Sehlabathebe management base, and also encourages further expansion of this training, so as to ensure that suitably qualified staff are available within both the Department of Culture and the Sehlabathebe National Park;
8. Also notes with appreciation that the two States Parties have commenced updating the cultural heritage management plan, which will incorporate risk preparedness and disaster response plans, and requests furthermore the States Parties to jointly inform the World Heritage Centre as soon as this plan is approved and to provide a copy of it to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
9. Further notes with appreciation that the State Party of Lesotho is developing a Biodiversity Resources Management Bill, as a matter of priority, and requests moreover the State Party of Lesotho to inform the World Heritage Centre, as soon as this Bill is approved, and to provide a copy to the World Heritage Centre;
10. Finally requests the States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, and the related matters set out in Decision **37 COM 8B.18**, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

34. Ngorongoro Conservation Area (Tanzania, United Republic of) (C/N 39bis)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

ASIA-PACIFIC

35. Tasmanian Wilderness (Australia) (C/N 181quinquies)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

36. Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru) (C/N 274)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1983

Criteria (i)(iii)(vii)(ix)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/274/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 11 (from 1986-2001)

Total amount approved: USD 166,625

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/274/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 15,000 Extra-Budgetary Spanish FIT support for the social participation workshop requested by the World Heritage Committee (Decision **30 COM 7B.35**).

Previous monitoring missions

April, 2007: World Heritage Centre/IUCN/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; January 2009: World Heritage Centre/IUCN/ICOMOS reinforced monitoring mission; February 2010: World Heritage Centre technical emergency mission; May 2012: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN technical Advisory mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Delays in reviewing the Master Plan and developing detailed yearly operational plans, and inadequate budgetary support for effective implementation
- No evaluation of transport options, related geological studies, or the impact of bus traffic on increasing the risk of landslides
- Lack of impact studies related to the carrying capacity of the Citadel and Inca Trail
- Delays in the development and implementation of a public use plan
- Delays in implementing urban planning and control measures for Machu Picchu Village, the main point of entry to the property, which has impacted on the visual values of the property
- Lack of effective management of the property
- Lack of risk management plans related to natural disasters
- Inadequate governance arrangements including lack of adequate coordination of activities between different institutions and stakeholders involved in site management
- Uncontrolled visitor access to the western part of the Sanctuary, related to the construction of the Carrilluchayoc Bridge

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/274/>

Current conservation issues

On 16 May 2014, the State Party submitted a progress report and on 6 February 2015, a report on the state of conservation of the property, a summary of the latter is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/274/documents>. On 17 April 2015, the State Party submitted additional information on the updated progress on the implementation of the recommendations requested by the Committee. The following information is provided in the reports:

- Efforts to harmonize relations among the different bodies involved in the integral management of the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (HSMP), and forming part of the Management Unit

(UGM), are reflected through the reinforcement of the Steering Committee by Executive Order 003-2011-MC and the Inter-institutional Agreement signed on 15 April 2015, which establishes a calendar of action for the implementation of priority measures;

- The harmonization of legislative framework will be completed through a study developed under consultancy which will be launched by Public Call of 27 April 2015. It is expected to have the study completed by 30 June 2015;
- In addition to regulations applied in an event of damage to natural heritage, sanctions for violations of cultural heritage will be introduced through the recently drafted Regulations on Sustainable Use and Sustainable Tourist Visitation that will be approved by the Ministry of Culture in the first half of 2015;
- The update of the Master Plan for Machu Picchu was finalized in December 2014 and approved by Ministerial Resolution 134-2015-MC of April 2015. This Master Plan is expected to provide for increased stakeholder participation in the management and operational strengthening of the UGM in the coming years;
- The Master Plan also foresees studies for the development of the Western Access, which from pre-Hispanic times has been a point of entry to Machu Picchu. The Carrying Capacity and Limit of Acceptable Change Study and Regulations of Tourism Use have been partially drafted. A security module has already been established to facilitate and control access at this point;
- Efforts have been dedicated to the defense of the ownership of the park, clearly established in national legislation, through court processes. Information has been provided regarding the updating of tourism regulations for the property and the Inca Trail;
- The Public Use Plan for the HSMP has been partially drafted and is expected to be completed by September 2015 through a Public Bid, which will be launched on 1 June 2015. A number of consultancies have been contracted, including for Carrying Capacity Studies for the citadel and the Inca trails, for Architectural Ideas for Interventions in the Machu Picchu National Archaeological Park and for the construction of an exit ramp parallel to the Control Entryway of the Inca City. Expansion of the Hydroelectric Power Plant is also foreseen;
- The Disaster Risk Prevention and Reduction Plan for Machu Picchu was drafted by the Multi-Sector Technical Committee in 2014 and was submitted to the CENEPRED in January 2015 for technical opinion and subsequent approval of the District Municipality;
- The Municipality has finished drafting the Urban Zoning Scheme, which is pending approval by the Municipal Council and the mayor.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies

Although significant progress is reported by the State Party, most of the deadlines requested by the Committee in Decision **37 COM 7B.35** have not been met and the results of the reported actions on the effectiveness of the management and the conservation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) remain to be demonstrated.

Despite the Committee's request to harmonize legislative frameworks, the State Party considers that existing legislation is appropriate and emphasizes that the Executive order 003-2011-MC provides for the integrated management of the property. The matter of sanctions for damage both to the cultural and the natural heritage has been appropriately addressed by the State Party.

The update of the Master Plan was concluded in December 2014, approved by the UGM and approved by the Ministry of Culture. However, this was done without previously conducting a management effectiveness assessment, which was requested by the Committee.

The operation of the Western Access is foreseen in the updated Master Plan. Although there are some advances in the development of a Site Plan, several other actions are still in the planning phase, including the elaboration of a comprehensive strategy for the Western Access.

While the Carrying Capacity Study and the Public Use Plan have only partially been completed, other concrete actions are progressing and may not be in synergy with the future Public Use Plan, specifically: the call for the "Architectural Ideas Competition for Interventions in Machu Picchu National Archaeological Park" and the study of the exit ramp that would run parallel to the entry and control ramp. The reported expansion of the Hydroelectric Power Plant requires an in-depth analysis of potential impact, including on the OUV of the property.

Although the State Party has made notable efforts in addressing the requests of the Committee, and has stressed its commitment to finalize some key issues, more work is needed to ensure that adequate processes are in place to address the considerable challenges and threats facing the property. Progress remains piecemeal with no robust over-arching structure that has the capacity to draw stakeholders together in a concerted way.

It is unclear what obstacles have so far prevented adequate progress being made – in spite of a clear Action plan, many missions and clear guidance by the Committee. Considering that there has been some progress, but that the requests of the Committee have not been met, the Committee could consider inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger at its 39th session. However the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies consider that one further year of coordinated effort, with particular support from ICOMOS and ICCROM regarding cultural attributes, should be requested to seek to achieve implementation of the Committee's decisions. In view of the above considerations, and the still remaining potential threats to the integrity and OUV of the property, it is suggested that focused technical support should be offered to the State Party, in order to consider how obstacles might be overcome, and foster a momentum that might lead to a sustainable outcome. It is further suggested that the State Party put in place a workshop before the end of October 2015, via an Advisory mission, to assist this process. It is further suggested that a joint World Heritage Centre/Advisory Bodies Reactive Monitoring mission be undertaken in 2016 to review progress.

It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit a report on the state of conservation of the property, for examination by the Committee at its 41st session in 2017, at which time the Committee might address whether satisfactory progress has been made to address the concerns raised, or whether consideration of inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger is warranted.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.36

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.35** adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Welcomes the efforts made by the State Party towards the implementation of a number of recommendations of the Committee but considers that insufficient progress has been made over the past six years to address the considerable challenges and threats facing the property;*
4. *Also considers that further technical support is needed in order to consider how obstacles might be overcome, and foster a momentum that might lead to a sustainable outcome;*
5. *Urges the State Party to implement, in line with the proposals of the Emergency Plan 2009 and the Revised Action Plan 2012, all pending actions defined in previous Committee decisions, as a matter of priority, including:*
 - a) *Harmonize legislative frameworks and strengthen governance arrangements for the property,*
 - b) *Develop a comprehensive strategy for the Western Access before implementing actions that lead to the consolidation of this access,*
 - c) *Undertake the Management Effectiveness Assessment in the framework of the approval process of the Management Plan,*
 - d) *Finalize the Public Use Plan in line with the provisions of the Master Plan, including the definition of the carrying capacity for the Sanctuary and its components, and Machu Picchu Village,*

- e) *Finalize the Urban Plan Scheme for Machu Picchu Village;*
6. *Recommends the State Party to invite, as a matter of priority, an Advisory mission with the participation of the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, in the form of a workshop with national and local authorities, to seek finalization of pending actions mentioned above, and recommends that this mission takes place before the end of October 2015;*
 7. *Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/Advisory Bodies Reactive Monitoring mission, early in 2016, to assess the progress made in the implementation of pending measures as noted above;*
 8. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016** a progress report on the implementation of the above measures and by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017, **with a view to considering, in the case of the absence of substantial progress in the implementation of the above, the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger***

CULTURAL PROPERTIES

AFRICA

37. Royal Palaces of Abomey (Benin) (C 323bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1985

Criteria (iii) (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1985-2007

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/323/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 6 (from 1985-2014)

Total amount approved: USD 118,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/323/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 450,000 from the Government of Japan and from the Riksantikvaren (Norwegian Cultural Heritage Directorate)

Previous monitoring missions

May/June 2004 and February 2007: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS missions; February 2006: Joint World Heritage Centre / CRAterre-ENSAG / Getty Conservation Institute monitoring mission; December 2012: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS / ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Absence of a national legislative mechanism for the protection of cultural heritage (issue resolved)
- Major deterioration of almost 50% of the earthen structural components (issue resolved)
- Lack of presentation and interpretation at the site (issue resolved)
- Lack and loss of documentation on the site (issue resolved)
- Lack of sharing of knowledge between site managers and among authorities (issue resolved)
- Need to distinguish between the site museum and the World Heritage site (issue resolved)
- No conservation or safeguarding measures have been undertaken at the site following the 2012 fire

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/323/>

Current conservation issues

On 27 February 2015, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whe.unesco.org/en/list/323/documents/>. This report contains the following information:

- A new fire occurred on 14 January 2015 and destroyed the roofs of eight of the ten buildings/cases that make up the property. Indications point to the fire being started by children practicing traditional rat hunting in the immediate vicinity of the property. The fire spread rapidly due to the presence of high grass around the property, indicating a lack of maintenance during the dry season. The African Heritage School (AHS), sent a mission to evaluate the damage and to prepare a report that was sent to the World Heritage Centre. The Centre organized on 18

February 2015 a teleconference for technical consultation concerning the review and conservation perspectives of the property, involving AHS, the African World Heritage Fund, CRAterre and the Mayor of Albi. This meeting noted that the fire was the result of a governance issue, of organization and implementation of monitoring, coordination and involvement mechanisms of the different actors in the management of the property.

- Some human activity (agriculture, hunting, tree felling) has developed and represents threats to the property, as does the presence of termites.
- Resources generated by visits have diminished due to a reduction in the number of visitors, linked to several factors, among which the Ebola virus that was rife in the region.
- The walls built in accordance with the plan for the management, conservation and enhancement of the property, have helped to preserve the integrity of the areas and avoid frequent infiltration.
- The protection and rehabilitation work of the property, ongoing for several years, has continued to progress with financial support from the town of Albi, France.
- An environmental study was carried out with funding provided by the British research programme "Science and Heritage". It reported that the levels of ozone and iron corrosivity were extremely high at the property, while the level of nitrogen dioxide was acceptable and the level of sulfur dioxide low.
- The Ministry of Culture has provided the property with various materials and equipment.
- Furthermore, the State Party has failed to provide information on progress in the preparation of a risk management plan for which it received support from the African World Heritage Fund in 2013. It also received approval for international assistance from the World Heritage Fund in 2014 to evaluate its management and conservation plan. This work has not yet begun.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

This new fire that occurred at the property in January 2015, is very worrying, all the more so as it is the third fire to occur, with the previous fire in 2012. Measures had been advocated and established to avoid such catastrophes in the future. A dysfunction appears to remain. It is essential to find an alternative sustainable solution without delay. The teleconference for technical consultation organized by the World Heritage Centre in February 2015 is beneficial because it is part of this dynamic. The recommendations issued at this meeting should lead to an operational result. The State Party must also finalize the disaster risk management plan and make the necessary updating of its management and conservation plan as soon as possible.

Moreover, the development of human activity around the property also constitutes a concern because of the pressure it causes. Measures must be undertaken to limit this tendency.

The reduction in the number of visitors to the site is also regrettable as it reflects a reduction of its financial capacities, already weak. Furthermore, the work accomplished in the framework of the plan for the management, conservation and enhancement of the property is of great use as it contributes towards conserving the integrity of the property, and the town of Albi should be encouraged to continue its support. The environmental study at the property constitutes a positive progress in the improvement of the knowledge of the site, and the British research programme that financed it should be encouraged to continue its support so as to resolve the issues raised.

It is therefore recommended that the World Heritage Committee take note of the efforts undertaken by the State Party in the implementation of the plan for the management, conservation and enhancement of the property. It is also recommended that the Committee express its great concern following the fire that has destroyed the roofs of the property and strongly urge the State Party to increase its efforts to improve the governance, organization and implementation of monitoring, coordination and involvement mechanisms of the different actors in the general management of the property, and in particular in the prevention of catastrophes. Finally, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to evaluate the conservation of the property, in particular the vulnerability of the roofs of the huts and propose priority sustainable conservation and protection measures.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.37

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.46**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Expresses its great concern following the fire that destroyed the roofs of eight of the ten huts that comprise the property and considers that this catastrophe represents a threat to the integrity of the property;
4. Takes note of the progress achieved by the State Party in the implementation of the plan for the management, conservation and enhancement of the property involving protection and rehabilitation work to reinforce the integrity of the areas and avoid frequent infiltrations; thanks the partners for their support and encourages them to continue and strengthen their support;
5. Strongly urges the State Party to increase efforts to improve the governance, organization and implementation of the monitoring, coordination and involvement mechanisms of the different parties concerned in the general management of the property, and in particular in the prevention of catastrophes;
6. Requests the State Party to finalize, without delay, the risk management plan, proceed with the revision of its plan for the management, conservation and enhancement of the property, and submit these documents to the World Heritage Centre for examination by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to evaluate the state of conservation of the property, in particular the vulnerability of the roofs of the huts and to propose priority measures for the prevention of fire risks, sustainable conservation and protection;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report including a 1-page summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

38. Historic Town of Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) (C 1322rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2012

Criteria (iii) (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1322/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved : USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1322/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 32,634 from the Convention France-UNESCO

Previous monitoring missions

2013 and 2014: Technical assistance missions in the framework of the Convention France-UNESCO for management in 2013 and restoration of the ancient Palace of Justice in 2014 ; Technical Assistance mission for the AfriCAP2016 project financed by the European Union in the framework of the ACP Cultures+ Programme.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

Upon inscription of the property on the World Heritage List in 2012, the Committee requested the State Party to:

- Clarify the property's limits for the land parts following the cadastral boundaries
- Enlarge the property's unified buffer zone to the Petit Paris neighbourhood and the lighthouse
- Clarify the land ownership situation (N'zima village, land lots with no property deed)
- Inscribe all the "buildings of heritage interest" in the property on the National Cultural Heritage List
- Define operational monitoring indicators which correspond to precise, periodic and quantified monitoring actions
- Strengthen and give details of the permanent human resources of the Local Committee and/or of the Heritage Centre
- Confirm the suspensive role of the Heritage Centre's views' in the functioning of the Building Permits Commission of Grand-Bassam for conservation purposes
- Reinforce the practical and operational dimension of the Plan for the Conservation and Management of the property
- Confirm the measures to provide encouragement for the restoration and conservation of the privately owned buildings

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1322>

Current conservation issues

On 29 January 2015, in response to Decisions **36 COM 8B.17** and **37 COM 7B.37**, the State Party sent a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1322/documents/>, informing of the following progress:

- A 1/4000 map, indicating the boundaries of the property and the new buffer zone beyond the lighthouse, was prepared and submitted in duplicate;
- A detailed list of the 18 members of the Local Management Committee, established in 2012, and of the 13 members of the Heritage House was provided;
- The suspensive nature of the building permit has been confirmed;

- Monitoring, control and maintenance mechanisms of the old buildings have been put in place;
- A preliminary study based on the archives and collection of evidence was completed;
- A map of the areas to replant has been established and a first tree planting operation was conducted in December 2014 by the City Council and the Heritage House;
- Follow-up indicators for the conservation of the property have been defined;
- Monitoring, control and maintenance mechanisms of the old buildings and the road network were established, and traditional skills were mobilized to manage the water of the lagoon;
- Restoration operations were conducted; diagnoses are underway for the former Palais de Justice;
- Actions are being undertaken for the opening up of the river mouth, the closure of which had serious socio-economic and environmental consequences;
- An architectural and urban inventory has been launched to help in the conservation, and the Heritage House is working on a best practice guide to assist in the application of the safeguarding plan;
- A list of strengths and weaknesses that remain to be addressed was prepared. The issue of financial resources for the restoration of public and private buildings has not yet been resolved, nor that of the Heritage House resources.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The quality of the report submitted by the State Party should be noted, in which it reaffirms its full commitment to the conservation and enhancement of the World Heritage property. Its very detailed and specific content provides concrete information on the actions undertaken and in progress under the Action Plan developed following inscription, and those still to be implemented, as well as on the functioning of the institutions, and the cooperations and partnerships developed. It provides a detailed picture of the progress of the measures taken and the actions implemented.

This report and those of the technical assistance missions emphasize the implementation of various initiatives and projects to develop the necessary conservation and management tools, and the State Party should be encouraged to finalize these tools, notably the inventory, the safeguarding plan and the identification of land titles.

These reports describe several bilateral and multilateral cooperation initiatives for the development and conservation of the property, and the State Party should be encouraged to continue these actions that specifically strengthen skills for management and conservation, as well as competencies with regard to the regulatory and institutional framework.

It also stressed the need to strengthen the role and resources of the Heritage House, its capacity for action and for ensuring the training of its staff, particularly in urban conservation. To enable this House to fulfill its missions, funding sources should be identified, and administrative and financial mechanisms should be developed to raise funds.

The analysis of the technical reports and that of the State Party reveals a lack of architects and urban heritage planners, at both the Heritage House and in the local Management Committee or the Building Permits Commission, and in the municipal services. This problem is partly compensated by the support of international cooperation (France-UNESCO Convention, AfriCAP2016 project) but it remains a major long-term challenge to ensure the effectiveness of the safeguarding and management mechanisms. As indicated in the Action Plan of the Heritage House appended to the report of the State Party, the establishment of specialized training should be pursued, both short- and long-term, for architects and urban heritage planners, and craftsmen skilled in restoration at local, national and regional levels. In a medium- and long-term perspective, the urban conservation of Grand Bassam should be associated with the urban development of the City, based on the approach centered on the historic urban landscape, in order to develop a large scale plan to support and monitor the urbanization in an integrated manner.

In order to ensure the conservation of the urban characteristics of the property, ongoing efforts to develop historical research and the development of a specific literature on the architectural and urban history of Grand Bassam should be continued, and also to develop integrated planning tools and small- and large-scale urban planning documents to prevent ruptures of templates, urban sprawls and

other urban development likely to affect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property. This implies the continuation and strengthening of dialogue between stakeholders. It is also important to study the coherence of the safeguarding plan for the property with an urban development plan on a larger scale to manage the development of suburbs and major infrastructures, to concord with the master plan of Greater Abidjan, and to address the issues of sanitation, waste management, the road network. The limits of the buffer zone will be reconsidered in accordance with the results of this analysis.

The reports indicate efforts to conduct actions of restoration, regeneration of the urban landscape (reestablishment of tree alignments) and lagoon management. These initiatives implemented with different partners should be encouraged.

Concerning the restoration of important buildings, including the former Palais de Justice, the State Party should be encouraged to continue these operations and promote vocational training *in situ*. For the old Palais de Justice, the reports recommend concrete and urgent actions concerning the stages of the restoration (protection and shoring, documentation and diagnosis...) and a prior reflection on the use and reuse of the building.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.38

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **36 COM 8B.17** and **37 COM 7B.37**, adopted respectively at its 36th (St. Petersburg, 2012) and 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) sessions,
3. Commends the State Party for the implementation of most of the points raised in Decisions **36 COM 8B.17** and **37 COM 7B.37**, and for the various cooperation initiatives developed at national level between stakeholders, and at international bilateral and multilateral levels;
4. Takes note of the extension of the boundaries of the buffer zone and encourages the State Party to continue its reflection on the revision of the boundaries of the zone;
5. Notes with satisfaction the State Party's efforts for the establishment of the Heritage House and the development of conservation and daily management tools for the architectural, urban and landscape heritage, and for the restoration operations and the monitoring of natural threats;
6. Requests the State Party to implement the specific actions required by Decisions **36 COM 8B.17** and **37 COM 7B** and reflected in the Action Plan to strengthen the protection and conservation of the property and bearing on the following themes:
 - a) *Urban conservation, planning and integrated urban development, taking into account the historic urban landscape and archival documentation,*
 - b) *Training and capacity building in architectural, urban and landscape conservation at local and national level,*
 - c) *Strengthening of financial resources and the technical and administrative capacities of the Heritage House to raise funds and implement activities,*
 - d) *Application of emergency and restoration measures in conformity with the old Palais de Justice;*
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016** an updated report, including a 1-page analytical summary, on the state of

conservation of the property and the implementation of the above for review by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

39. Aksum (Ethiopia) (C 15)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1980

Criteria (i) (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/15/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 1996-1996)

Total amount approved: USD 2,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/15/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount provided: USD 5.07 million by the Italian Funds-in-Trust for the "Aksum Archaeological Site Improvement Project: Preparatory studies for the reinstallation of the Obelisk and capacity building for archaeological conservation - Phase 1", "Reinstallation of the Obelisk - Phase 2" and "Consolidation of Stele III".

Previous monitoring missions

2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009: missions of the World Heritage Centre and experts for the implementation of the Obelisk project; 2010 and 2013: Joint Reactive Monitoring missions World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Insufficient delimitation of this serial property
- Lack of conservation and management plans
- Lack of appropriate urban planning and building regulations
- Urban encroachment and inappropriate new developments
- Rising water level / seepage
- Structural instability of Stele III

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/15/>

Current conservation issues

On 29 January 2015, the State Party of Ethiopia submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/15/documents/>, highlighting progress made in relation to the requests of the Committee:

- The construction work on the Church Museum is still being carried-out and has not yet been completed, but the facades are planned to be synchronized with the visual integrity of the World Heritage site and its surroundings. Indigenous trees within the church compound, especially those facing the main Stele field, shall be maintained for their historical significance to the Church of Saint Mary of Zion. A computer-generated image of the museum façade is included as an annex to the report as the final plan for the Church Museum. This image is part of a complete set of detailed plans originally submitted to the World Heritage Centre in 2012.

- The management plan for Aksum World Heritage property has been developed in close collaboration with the Department of Archaeology in the University of Aksum.
- The Aksum Master Plan has been developed through a series of stakeholders consultations, and a thematic Master Plan was designed to address specific management issues of the World Heritage property. This Thematic Master Plan was endorsed by the regional government to ensure that any development endeavour in the town of Aksum shall be in line with heritage management concerns.
- The National Mapping Agency assisted the State Party in finalizing the boundary delineation of Aksum World Heritage property. This was based on previous survey works, and carried-out in consultation with stakeholders. Draft maps of the boundary were thus developed and included in the draft law of the property, which still needs to be endorsed by the Council of Ministers. The draft maps include the proposed core and buffer zones for the boundary of the property, and were included as an annex in the State Party report.
- A letter received on 22 April 2014 informed the World Heritage Centre of the State Party's decision to finance the consolidation project for the reinforcement of the foundation of the Stele III and the investigation of the causes of the rising water level in the Tomb of the Brick Arches. A team of experts has been assigned to identify the root cause of the rising water table in the Tomb of the Brick Arches. In September 2014, UNESCO assisted the State Party with the identification of experts to supervise and coordinate the engineering project for the consolidation of the Foundation of Stele III. Operational activities are underway to implement the engineering document of the project.
- Numerous households have been relocated from the core area of the property following the resettlement plan. They also highlight that the Ethiopian Sustainable Tourism Development Project includes a component on Aksum, which includes development of a Visitor Centre and landscaping based on the thematic master plan of the area. Lastly, the vacant old settlement of the historic site needs to be regenerated in order to add value to the World Heritage property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The progress reported by the State Party in response to the Committee's requests is acknowledged, and it is recommended that the Committee congratulate the State Party on its decision to finance the consolidation project for the reinforcement of the foundation of Stele III and the investigation of the causes of the rising water level in the Tomb of the Brick Arches. It should be noted however that the agreed-upon consolidation document for the reinforcement of the foundation of Stele III dates back to 2010, and the State Party may wish to consider updating the technical and financial aspects of the document prior to its implementation.

Although progress is reported on the development of the Management Plan and Thematic Master Plan for Aksum, these documents should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies for review once they are finalized.

The efforts undertaken by the State Party to produce a final draft of the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone are noted, and the State Party should be encouraged to carefully follow the specifications for the production of maps provided by the World Heritage Centre. It is recommended that the Committee remind the State Party of the urgency of its request to submit revised maps to the World Heritage Centre in view of an eventual Minor Boundary Modification.

Regarding the visual impact of the Church Museum and the submission of the final plans of the building to the World Heritage Centre, the State Party was requested to amend the façade to take account of the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission's views. The State Party reports that it is complying; however, the final plan submitted as an annex to the State Party report only includes an image from the original plan submitted to the World Heritage Centre in 2012. As the State Party reports that significant progress has been made but the construction work is not yet finished, it will be important to send an ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to ensure that the visual integrity of the World Heritage property and its surroundings are not being affected.

In addition to reviewing the progress on the Church Museum, a joint Reactive Monitoring mission will also be necessary to review the management mechanisms, advise on the boundary modification and assess the progress made on the consolidation of the Stele III and the investigation of the rising water level in the tomb of the Brick Arches. Moreover, the mission could also evaluate whether the Ethiopian

Sustainable Tourism Development Project is in line with the World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.39

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **36 COM 7B.41** and **37COM 7B.38**, adopted at its 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012), and 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) sessions respectively,
3. Congratulates the State Party for affirming its commitment to financing the consolidation project for the reinforcement of the foundation of Stele III and the investigation of the causes of the rising water level in the Tomb of the Brick Arches; and urges it to keep the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies updated on:
 - a) any changes in the agreed-upon project document for Stele III,
 - b) the results of the investigation of the rising water level;
4. Acknowledges the reported progress on the construction of the Church Museum but notes that it remains unclear how the façade will be amended to take account of the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission's views and therefore, requests the State Party to submit relevant plans and drawings;
5. Also notes the reported development of the Management Plan for Aksum in close collaboration with the Department of Archaeology at Aksum University, and encourages the State Party to remain vigilant that the Plan ensures that critical viewpoints are maintained and tools put in place for monitoring visual impacts;
6. Further notes the development of the Thematic Master Plan and also requests that copies of these documents be submitted to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies once they are finalized;
7. Reiterates the urgency of finalizing the clarification of the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone, according to the specifications for maps provided by the World Heritage Centre to the State Party, and also reiterates its request to the State Party to submit a minor boundary modification to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2016** for examination by the World Heritage Committee;
8. Also encourages the State Party to liaise closely with the World Heritage Centre in the development and implementation of the Ethiopian Sustainable Tourism Development Project;
9. Further encourages the State Party to continue implementing the recommendations of the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission, and further requests the State Party to invite an ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, before the end of 2015, to review the progress made on the above issues and to examine the state of conservation of the property;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016.

40. Lamu Old Town (Kenya) (C 1055)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late mission)

41. Old Towns of Djenné (Mali) (C 116 rev)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (mission foreseen late)

42. Le Morne Cultural Landscape (Mauritius) (C 1259bis)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

43. Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove (Nigeria) (C 1118)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2005

Criteria (ii) (iii) (vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1118/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 1999-1999)

Total amount approved: USD 10,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1118/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Urban development close to the property
- Road construction around the property
- Pollution of the Osun River
- Bush fires within the property
- Adverse impact of the commercialisation of the annual festival
- Fragility of spiritual, symbolic and ritual qualities of the Grove in the face of a growth in visitor numbers and the lack of a tourism management plan
- Road through property not re-aligned

Illustrative material <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1118/>

Current conservation issues

On 28 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1118/documents/> and addresses some of the issues raised by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session as well as the conservation of the sculptures, as follows:

- *Pollution of the Osun River:* The quality of the river water has improved as a result of increasing the cleaning of the river from one to four times a year.
- *Conservation of the forest:* As a result of plant regeneration and re-planting, the number of plant species in the forests has increased from 400 to 465. The faunal population are now contained within the forest by a wire mesh boundary fence.
- *Conservation of the sculptures:* During the year 2013-2014, 61 sculptures at the traditional (mythological) Ontoto market site in the Grove were restored by the Sacred Art Movement, as well the Flying Tortoise, a sculpture by Suzanne Wenger formerly at the traditional entrance to the Grove.
- *Management:* A revised Conservation/Management Plan was prepared in 2014 to run until 2019. In addition, a Cultural Tourism and Disaster Risk Preparedness Plans have been prepared. None of these plans have been submitted.
- *Annual Festival:* The new Plans aim to address the pressure on the Grove from the Annual Festival through zoning areas for spiritual and symbolic activities and diverting some social activities to the buffer zone or less sensitive areas. 5% of the income from the Grove will now go towards conservation work in the property.
- *Urban Development and Roads:* Although the new Management Plan includes approaches to ameliorating the impacts of development, no details have been provided, nor has a timescale been provided for the removal of the road through the property.

The requested ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission has not taken place, although the State Party has indicated that it will invite such a mission during the coming year.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The progress with regenerating parts of the sacred forest area is welcome. At the time of inscription, there were plans to regenerate the 30% of the primary forest that had been damaged by plantations and other agricultural activities. It is not entirely clear whether all or only some of this area has now been regenerated and/or re-planted. The frequency of river cleaning has been increased; however, in respect of the sacred nature of the river, preventative policies need to be introduced to reverse water pollution and remove the need for regular cleaning.

A programme for the conservation of the sculptures has started with those in the market shrine having been completed. During the year, an International Assistance Request was received to support the conservation of the many other sculptures within the Grove. This request was referred back for more details on the conservation approach and on forward planning and documentation in the light of the extreme complexity of this work. It was also suggested that the forthcoming mission might consider these issues.

The production of a revised Management/Conservation Plan and of Visitor Management and Risk Preparedness Plans is also welcome. Given the strong development and visitor pressures on the Grove, these plans should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies and also be considered by the forthcoming mission in order to understand specific measures on curtailing and controlling development in the setting of the property, the carrying capacity of the Grove and approaches to sculpture conservation.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.43

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,

2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.53** adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Welcomes progress with regeneration of the sacred forest and the increased frequency of river cleaning; but urges the State Party to tackle the source of the river pollution;
4. Also welcomes the revision of the Management Plan and the development of Cultural Tourism and Risk Preparedness Plans and requests the State Party to submit copies of these plans to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Notes that work on conserving sculptures has begun in the market shrine and that funds are being sought for further work in the Grove, and also requests the State Party to provide more details on the conservation approach, and on forward planning and documentation in the light of the extreme complexity of this work;
6. Also notes that the State Party intends to invite the requested ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property during the year, in order to consider urban development, tourism management and the conservation of natural resources; and suggests that the mission also consider conservation approaches to sculpture conservation;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

44. Fossil hominids sites of South Africa (South Africa) (C 915bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1999, extension in 2005

Criteria (iii) (vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/915/documents/>

International Assistance

N/A

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Ground water pollution
- Mining
- Surface water pollution
- Acid mine drainage

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/915/>

Current conservation issues

On 27 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/915/documents/>. Progress in a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous session is presented in the report as follows:

- The mine water risk has largely been contained through the implementation of immediate and short-term mine water control and management measures in accordance with recommendations made by the Inter-Ministerial Committee on acid mine drainage (AMD);
- The establishment of an Inter-Governmental Task Team (IGTT) to coordinate the water (surface, groundwater and mine) management, which is chaired by a representative from the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). The property's management authority is also represented on the IGTT.
- The IGTT has taken responsibility for the management of mine water rising in the Western Basin upstream from the property and initial measures have been undertaken to improve the mine water treatment plant.
- A three year research project has recently been completed, which aims to understand the impact of AMD on the water resources environment.
- Water resources across the property are monitored and reported on every six months and are stored in the National Groundwater Archive. They contain data on precipitation, surface water resources, mine water and ground water. The results are reviewed by the IGTT.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party has responded to all the matters raised by the World Heritage Committee and has supplied information on the property's ongoing protection.

Though the IGTT and DWS are the two key bodies responsible for the water management, there are a number of other agencies mentioned in the state of conservation report who have a role in managing and monitoring the water issues. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide further details identifying each agency's roles and responsibilities for the water management at the property and the reporting structure.

Initial measures have been undertaken to improve the mine water treatment plant. Although these measures have mitigated some of the adverse impacts in the downstream aquatic environment, the plant still remains inadequate to control the volume of decant generated in exceptionally wet summer rainfall seasons. This limitation is being assessed by the second phase of the Western Basin works currently underway, which is increasing the capacity of the treatment facility and the construction of a new pump-station. Further clarification on the design specifications for this phase of works are needed to assess how this project will result in the significant mitigation of the raw mine water threat to the receiving environment. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to carry-out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and submit it to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies.

The monitoring programmes and systems that the State Party has developed and implemented are having a positive impact on the mitigation of AMD and ground water and surface water pollution. However, it is unclear if the quality values reported relate to treated or untreated mine water, what the monitoring time frames are and how the results shall be disseminated (e.g. annual reports, web base, etc.).

Only a small portion of the property, located in the south-western portion, remains at risk from the impact of AMD and municipal wastewater effluent. The State Party is encouraged to implement a programme to address this area at risk from AMD.

The State Party does not provide any discussion on the effects of climate change on the property. It is recommended that the State Party consider if climate change is a factor that may impact on the property. Another factor that should be taken into consideration is the potential impact of AMD on the pipes that supply drinking water to Johannesburg in the event that this infrastructure fails. The State Party should develop a contingency plan to manage such an event.

In light of the progress made by the State Party, it is considered that the main concerns of the World Heritage Committee are currently being addressed. It is therefore recommended that the Committee commend the State Party on activities so far undertaken to improve water management on the property and encourage it to continue with the implementation of all relevant measures and projects.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.44

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37.COM 7B.44** adopted as its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the State Party on activities so far undertaken to improve water management on the property, and encourages it to continue with the implementation of all relevant measures and projects;*
4. *Also commends the State Party for the measures so far undertaken to implement systems and programmes to mitigate the impacts of acid mining drainage on the property, and also encourages the State Party to sustain these efforts;*
5. *Requests the State Party to:*
 - a) *provide additional information on the management framework for the property including identifying each agency's roles and responsibilities for the water management of the property and the reporting structure,*
 - b) *provide further clarification on the design specifications for the second phase of the western basin works;*
 - c) *undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), on the second phase of works on the Western Basin mine water treatment plant for submission to the World Heritage Centre and review by the Advisory Bodies,*
 - d) *provide additional information on the water management monitoring programme, specifically on the definition of water quality targets and associated monitoring time frames and the dissemination of information,*
 - e) *develop a programme to mitigate the risks from the impact of acid mine drainage and municipal wastewater effluent for the south-western portion of the property still at risk from these factors;*
6. *Also requests the State Party to consider external factors, such as climate change and leakage from drinking water supplies, in its ongoing water management for the property;*
7. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

45. Stone Town of Zanzibar (Tanzania, United Republic of) (C 173rev)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add

ARAB STATES

46. Kasbah of Algiers (Algeria) (C 565)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1992

Criteria (ii)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/565/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 5 (from 1993-2002)

Total amount approved: USD 92,600

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/565/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

September 2001: World Heritage Centre Reactive Monitoring mission; from November 2007 to November 2009: Six World Heritage Centre missions financed by the State Party for the Safeguarding Plan and the issue of the metro.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Natural erosion
- Lack of maintenance of dwelling places
- Loss of traditional conservation techniques
- Uncontrolled land use
- Non-operational safeguarding plan
- Lack of coordination of activities

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/565/>

Current conservation issues

On 29 January 2015, a report on the state of conservation of the property and an impact study of the metro project for Algiers was submitted by the State Party. A summary of this report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/565/documents>. Furthermore, an ICOMOS Advisory mission visited the property in April-May 2013. Progress achieved is contained in these reports, as follows:

- In the framework of the implementation of the Permanent Plan for the Safeguarding and Valorization (PPSMVSS) of the Kasbah of Algiers, published in 2012, an action plan was developed during the second quarter of 2014 by the Ministry of Culture, in co-ordination with the Wilaya and the presidents of the Local Communal Assemblies (APC) of the three competent communes in the territories of the safeguarded sector, based on a participatory process, to accommodate legal, procedural and customary constraints in the technical domain.
- The issue of the relocation of populations is fundamental in the implementation of the PPSMVSS, the major difficulty being to intervene in occupied buildings and the resulting reduction in the density of the population of the Kasbah. The 2013 ICOMOS Advisory mission report underlines the need for a general mobilization, more intense consultations with the “stable” population and the establishment of incentives for private owners for the rehabilitation of

their properties. It also highlights the need of a better consideration of the human and social dimension of rehabilitation, as well as the need to resolve the problem of the empty lots that, due to the incline of the land, play an important structural role as regards the urban fabric, and should be filled in to halt the danger of the collapse of surrounding buildings.

- The impact study of the Algiers Metro Project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Kasbah of Algiers confirms that the development of the Place des Martyrs station has overall taken into consideration the recommendations and earlier decisions of the World Heritage Committee and the 2013 Advisory mission. The Place des Martyrs will remain an open area with, as only development, the access areas to the metro station. The memorial project foreseen on the square has been cancelled. The results of the archaeological excavations, which should be completed in 2015, will result in a scientific and technological programme and the establishment of a museum which will also house this station, and will be presented to the World Heritage Centre for examination by the Advisory Bodies prior to any commitment relating to their implementation.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party report raises two important issues: the first concerns the interaction and the co-ordination between the numerous interventions carried out in parallel at the property. Other than co-ordination difficulties, the issue of concordance of timely actions is questioned. Some are still at the operational phase, whereas others are still being studied. This renders the evaluation of real progress accomplished by the PPSMVSS very difficult. The second difficulty concerns the absence of information on interaction of the Kasbah as an urban entity with its immediate environment.

The State Party has accomplished important efforts in the improvement of the state of conservation of the property despite multiple constraints. The inherent complexity of the conservation of an inhabited property is increased by the technical difficulties (incline of the land, several empty plots in the urban fabric, fragility and insalubrity of numerous buildings, etc.) and its urban context. The present approach for the management of the property appears to be limited to the perimeter of the property (105 ha) as safeguarded sector, inscribed as World Heritage. However, the implementation of the PPSMVSS would be strengthened if it operated in a holistic approach for the conservation of this urban heritage, as foreseen by the UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (2011). This approach would strengthen co-ordination between the concerned institutions and bring together all the components of the project under the same auspices, integrating the Kasbah in a wider urban context with all the dimensions (historical, geographical, topographical, environmental, technical, architectural, socio-cultural, economical, etc.) that interact within and beyond the property. A new Advisory mission, at the invitation of the State Party, could prove useful to develop this approach.

The action plan carried out by the Ministry of Culture appears to have been developed so as to take into account all these considerations and is based largely on the strengthening of co-operation between the key actors in the implementation of the PPSMVSS. It would be very useful for the World Heritage Centre to receive more details on the results obtained since the launching of this plan.

The situation at the Place des Martyrs is now clearer, thanks to the renouncement of any project concerning this highly symbolic open area. The impact, mainly visual, of the access points to the metro station may be considered acceptable if their structure and material used remain as discrete as possible. It is essential that the results of the archaeological excavations are retained and analyzed before the finalization of the museum project within the metro station.

In the light of the above, it is recommended that the World Heritage Committee suggest to the State Party to choose an integrated approach, based on the historic urban landscape in the framework of the implementation of the PPSMVSS. It is also recommended that the World Heritage Committee request the State Party to provide the World Heritage Centre with a progress report on the implementation of the PPSMVSS and the use of this approach if adopted, as well as the results of the archaeological excavations carried out at the Place des Martyrs in the framework of the establishment of the metro station.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.46

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.46** adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Congratulates the State Party for the important efforts aiming to improve the state of conservation of the property;
4. Notes however, the difficulties encountered in the implementation of the Permanent Plan for the Safeguarding and Valorization of the property (PPSMVSS), especially due to the co-ordination of problems between the principal actors and intervention projects, but also due to an approach essentially oriented on the safeguarded sector;
5. Encourages the State Party to consider the use of an integrated approach based on the historic urban landscape for the implementation of the PPSMVSS, to respond to the problems raised in Item 4 of the present decision, and if need be, to invite an Advisory mission, financed by the State Party, to develop the use of this approach;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2015**, a full report on the result of the analyses of the archaeological excavations carried out at the Place des Martyrs in the framework of the construction of the metro station as well as the underground museum that will be housed within the station;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including an analytical one-page summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above-mentioned points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

47. Tipasa (Algeria) (C 193)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1982

Criteria (iii) (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2002-2006

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/193/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 6 (from 1989-2001)

Total amount approved: USD 75,900

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/193/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 9,564 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust

Previous monitoring missions

2002: World Heritage Centre and experts missions; March 2006: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Natural degradation caused by littoral erosion, marine salt and vegetation covering part of the inscribed sectors
- Deterioration of the remains due to vandalism, theft and uncontrolled visitation causing accumulation of rubbish
- Urbanisation on the outskirts of the property where, in the absence of a defined buffer zone, illegal construction provokes land disputes
- Lack of capacities for site conservation, unsuitable restoration techniques, and poor conservation conditions for the archaeological remains
- Proposed port development

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/193/>

Current conservation issues

On 22 January 2015, a report on the state of conservation of the property was submitted by the State Party, a summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/193/documents>. The State Party reports the following:

- A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the proposed enhancement of Tipasa's port, as requested by the World Heritage Committee in 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2013, is now in progress; a preliminary report was submitted to the State Party in February 2015, with the final report expected in mid-May 2015. A corresponding Advisory mission proposed by the State Party in 2013 was not formally requested due to the delay created by contractual problems. In its report, the State Party has proposed convening the Advisory mission in late February or early March 2015 to discuss the project with the parties concerned and to make an assessment of the situation; this mission could not be organised in the proposed dates since no formal request has been made by the end of March 2015. The State Party advises that a study for the protection of the harbour cliff is currently being developed by the Directorate of Public Works of the Wilaya of Tipasa for the implementation of emergency measures for the protection of the cliff.
- Regarding further details on the protection and enhancement works foreseen at the property, the State Party reports that the office in charge of the Tipasa archaeological site contracted a conservation programme in compliance with the protection and enhancement plan for the archaeological sites of Tipasa (approved by Executive Decree of 25 March 2012) and its Management Plan (which is in the process of being updated). This programme concerns scientific, promotional and public education activities. In terms of training, a mosaic conservation technician training school was set up through a cooperative agreement with the Getty Foundation and the Mozaikon programme. Activities also include training of the site's staff in risk management, and restoration and development initiatives at the archaeological parks, site museum and Royal Mausoleum of Mauretania.

A limited consultation project of studies and follow-up protection and enhancement works referred to in the State Party's February 2013 state of conservation report was delayed due to inconclusive tender procedures. However, restoration and enhancement works were undertaken at the Royal Mausoleum and at the archaeological parks, involving a mosaic protection initiative as well as repairs to the site's fencing and to the paving of the ancient theatre. The State Party advises that all the protection and enhancement works will be initiated as soon as tender procedures are finalized. In the meantime, new limited consultation procedures have continued.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The continuing progress being made on implementing the protection and enhancement plan for the archaeological sites of Tipasa and its protection zone is well noted, and it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to continue to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of the progress in its implementation, and to submit to the World Heritage Centre a Heritage Impact Assessment study for the proposed enhancement of Tipasa's port, before work commences. It would be important for the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to have the opportunity to discuss

the plan's progress and the proposed port enhancement with the State Party and the parties concerned on the ground, as proposed by the State Party, in order to allow a proper assessment before detailed pre-project designs are prepared. It is therefore recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to organize the Advisory mission as soon as possible.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.47

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.45**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Takes note of the continuing progress made in implementing the plan for the protection and enhancement of the property and its protected area;
4. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre an assessment of the impact of the proposed enhancement of Tipasa's port on the property, in line with the ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties, before work commences;
5. Encourages the State Party to organize, in due time, the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission it proposes in its report, to assess progress in the implementation of the plan for the protection and enhancement of the property and its protected area, and to assess the proposed enhancement of Tipasa's port before detailed pre-project designs are prepared
6. Requests the State Party to submit the updated Management Plan, once it is completed, to the World Heritage Centre for review by ICOMOS;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

48. Qal'at al-Bahrain – Ancient Harbour and Capital of Dilmun (Barhain) (C 1192ter)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

49. Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis (Egypt) (C 87)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979

Criteria (i)(iii)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/87/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2001-2001)

Total amount approved: USD 7,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/87/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 1,131,000 from the Japanese Funds-in-Trust 2002-2004 and 2008 (wall paintings restoration in the tomb of Amenophis III).

Previous monitoring missions

2001: ICOMOS mission; 2002: hydrology expert mission; July 2006 and May 2007: World Heritage Centre missions; April 2008: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission; May 2009: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Raise of the underground water level
- Risks of flooding (Valleys of Kings and Queens)
- Absence of a comprehensive Management Plan
- Major infrastructure and development projects taking place or scheduled
- Uncontrolled urban development
- Housing and agricultural encroachment on the West Bank of the Nile
- Demolitions in the villages of Gurna on the West Bank of the Nile and transfer of the population

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/87/>

Current conservation issues

On the 29 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/87/documents/>. The report only addresses some of the recommendations made by the World Heritage Committee at its 36th session (Saint-Petersburg, 2012) namely:

- The report provides some information on the restoration and conservation works carried out, consisting mainly of cleaning and maintenance works at Karnak Temple, Luxor and Medamoud Temple and Rams Road, as well as in the al-Qurna Archaeological area (Valley of the Kings).
- A number of ongoing excavation works are listed in the report, as well as the studies and excavations carried out by foreign missions.
- The State Party confirms that the factors affecting the property are encroachment and construction activities around the area of the property, general deterioration due to natural factors, such as bird droppings and vegetation. Medamoud Temple is reported to be affected by a ground water problem, lack of sanitation and lighting at the site. Further issues reported are exceeding constructions near Rams Road and general decay and neglect due to the lack of funds.
- No information has been provided concerning the overall management plan, although the report mentions a restoration and maintenance plan, listing the restoration and maintenance activities foreseen at Ramses III, the project for development and restoration of King Ramses II at Luxor and Tod Temple. Restoration works are reported to be outsourced to the American Research Centre and the German Mission.

- The State Party report lists a great number of development proposals relating to the improvement of the sites, upgrading of monuments, building of a visitor centre and a specialised museum near Rams Road. Further brief information includes the proposal for the removal of monuments from Medamoud Temple to Karnak Temple for the purpose of renovating the site. The report also mentions the organisation of a training programme to raise the capacities of archaeologists.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

While the report provides a list of information concerning the ongoing and planned restoration and maintenance works at the property, no further details have been provided. It is not clear to what extent the activities listed constitute essential stabilisation works. No details have been provided on infra-structural projects, as requested by the Committee. Recalling the Committee's previous recommendations and decisions, as well as previous reports highlighting the vulnerabilities of the property stemming from the lack of an integrated management plan, there is concern about the current situation.

Considering the lack of information provided concerning progress made toward the development of an integrated management plan and the seeming lack of a comprehensive policy for the property, it is considered that this constitutes a threat to the integrity of the property. In addition, while no further information is available concerning the encroachments and construction activities mentioned in the report and highlighted in previous state of conservation reports, it is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to provide detailed information on the planning and design of proposed and on-going projects, in particular those related to infrastructure development, for review prior to implementation.

Furthermore, due to the lack of detailed information and in view of the above mentioned concerns, it is recommended that the World Heritage Committee request the State Party to invite a Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to consider these and assist the State Party in elaborating the terms of reference for the development of an integrated management plan.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.49

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision 37 COM 7B.48, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Noting the maintenance and restoration works carried out at the property, as well as proposed site development activities outlined in the state of conservation report,*
4. *Expresses its concern about the factors affecting the property and the seeming lack of a comprehensive policy, which constitutes a threat to the integrity of the property;*
5. *Urges the State Party to develop, as a matter of priority, an integrated management plan for the property and to reduce all interventions and development measures until such a plan has been developed and adopted;*
6. *Reiterates its request to the State Party, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, to provide detailed information on the planning and design of proposed and on-going projects, in particular those related to infrastructure development, including Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs), for review by the Advisory Bodies, prior to approval and implementation;*
7. *Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to consider the above, evaluate the state of conservation of the*

property and assist the State Party in elaborating the terms of reference for the development of an integrated management plan;

8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

50. Historic Cairo (Egypt) (C 89)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979

Criteria (i)(v)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/89/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 11 (from 1979-2014)

Total amount approved: USD 448,900

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/89/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: Special Account for the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of Egypt: USD 2,203,304 for the project Urban Regeneration of Historic Cairo (URHC).

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/663>

Previous monitoring missions

August 2002, March 2005: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; April and December 2007: World Heritage Centre missions for the Cairo Financial Centre; October 2008: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; 2009-2013: several World Heritage Centre missions for the URHC project; November 2014: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Earthquake in 1992 (issue resolved)
- Inappropriate reconstruction works (issue resolved)
- Rise of the underground water level
- Dilapidated infrastructure
- Neglect and lack of maintenance
- Overcrowded areas and buildings
- Uncontrolled development
- Absence of a comprehensive Urban Conservation Plan
- Absence of an integrated socio-economic revitalization plan linking the urban and the socio-cultural fabric of the city core

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/89/>

Current conservation issues

On 8 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report; a summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/89/documents/>. The report indicates the following progress:

- In response to Decision **37 COM 7B.49**, a Ministerial Committee was established under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister to overlook the planning of all activities pertaining to Historic Cairo and develop appropriate strategies of intervention; the boundaries of the property and buffer zone, as proposed by the UNESCO Urban Regeneration of Historic Cairo Project (URHC) team have been approved by the Ministerial Committee on 13 January 2015; and a site management plan will be prepared with the concerned stakeholders.
- The Ministerial Committee is working on amending the law on construction and demolition within Historic Cairo to address illegal constructions. A document showcasing the government's efforts to control those constructions was provided.
- The report lists the restoration projects in several monuments and the urban regeneration project in al-Gamaliya, which were implemented in the property, and the future plans to rehabilitate al-Moez Street; it provides drawings on planned development projects within the property. However, the report did not provide a revised draft of the retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

Upon invitation by the State Party, a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission took place from 14 to 18 November 2014 to Historic Cairo. The mission was made fully aware that the fabric of Historic Cairo is under severe strain from inadequate development control. Although many of the monuments have been restored and are being managed, the urban fabric is extremely vulnerable. The mission considered that unless actions are taken to reverse what is becoming a downward spiral in the immediate future, it could well become impossible to sustain the attributes of the property's OUV.

The mission recommended a major Revitalisation Project for Historic Cairo that could valorise the attributes of OUV and the social and cultural assets of the city, reverse urban decline and foster a synergy between the present and the past. Such a project would need to be tiled into the wider development of Greater Cairo, which are facing major transformational pressures and rapid urban change. The mission also suggested short, medium and long term actions based on the URHC studies, analysis and proposals. It also suggested that a technical workshop might be convened to explore further strategic or area-based approaches for what could become one of the world's largest urban revitalisation projects.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The rapid and irreversible degradation of the property's urban fabric make it very difficult for the State Party to sustain the attributes of the property's OUV should be noted with great concern. The State Party has taken important steps towards a reinforced and more coordinated approach to Historic Cairo, by taking forward the conservation of the property at the highest level and addressing its challenges in a holistic way that takes into account local development concerns. It has also adopted the boundaries and buffer zone of the property as proposed by the URHC project and requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session. However, despite the establishment of a Ministerial Committee, the property still does not have a management plan nor a management system to enforce the decisions of the Ministerial Committee; urban decay is accelerating and particularly impacting on buildings of "peculiar value" which constitute the very quality of the urban fabric, and illegal constructions are still being built at a rapid pace. It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee commend the State Party for the progress made so far, but also urge it for the adoption of a management system and the production of a management plan, and reiterate its request to halt illegal constructions and refrain from demolishing the original urban fabric.

In view of the complexity of the problems encountered in Historic Cairo, and the extent of the property's urban decay, it appears that only a large scale urban revitalisation project that addresses the social, economic and environmental aspects in a holistic manner could save the property. Such a project could build on the extensive studies and pilot project produced by the URHC and would require the creation of a unified management structure for the property. The mechanisms of such a large scale project could be established in a technical workshop to define concrete operational steps, and may be supported by an extension of the URHC Project.

While the detailed contents of an urban revitalisation project, its aims, objectives, implementation mechanism and provisional timeframe are being planned, and a Technical Unit of highly-qualified multidisciplinary team is appointed, it is recommended that the World Heritage Committee urge the State Party to undertake the short term actions (before end of 2015) proposed by the 2014 World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission by introducing stricter controls, particularly on demolition and development in order to stabilise the current situation of the urban fabric. Such short term actions

should be accompanied by awareness-raising actions amongst residents and amongst those involved in development control measures.

Finally, it is recommended that the World Heritage Committee reiterate its request for the submission by the State Party of a retrospective Statement of OUV.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.50

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **36 COM 7B.51**, and **37 COM 7B.49**, adopted at its 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012) and 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) sessions respectively,*
3. *Notes with great concern the rapid and irreversible degradation of the Historic Cairo urban fabric which will make it very difficult for the State Party to sustain the attributes of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);*
4. *Acknowledges the establishment by the State Party of a Ministerial Committee chaired by the Prime Minister to oversee the management of Historic Cairo, and commends it for adopting the boundaries and buffer zone of the property as proposed by the UNESCO Urban Regeneration of Historic Cairo Project (URHC) and requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013);*
5. *Urges the State Party to introduce stricter controls, particularly on demolition and development in order to stabilise the current situation of the urban fabric, in parallel with appropriate awareness-raising actions;*
6. *Also urges the State Party to consider a large scale urban revitalisation project that addresses the social, economic and environmental problems affecting the property in a holistic manner, and to hold a technical workshop to define the aims, objectives, implementation mechanism and provisional timeframe of such a project;*
7. *Requests that a Technical Unit formed of a highly-qualified multidisciplinary team be created, to manage the property, establish its integrated management plan, and take forward the URHC;*
8. *Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre the revised draft of the retrospective Statement of OUV for the property;*
9. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

51. Hatra (Iraq) (C 277rev)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

52. Petra (Jordan) (C 326)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

53. Um er-Rasas (Kastrom Mefa'a) (Jordan) (C 1093)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2004

Criteria (i)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2007-2009)

Total amount approved: USD 34,750

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 6,000 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust

Previous monitoring missions

March-April 2005: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; November 2006: Joint World Heritage Centre/ ICOMOS mission; March 2008: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission; July 2008: World Heritage Centre expert mission for the Stylite tower.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Unstable structures and lack of security
- Lack of comprehensive conservation plan
- Lack of management structure and plan
- Important tourism development project with new constructions

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093/>

Current conservation issues

On 3 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093/documents>. The report addresses Decision **37 COM7B.51** of the World Heritage Committee, as follows:

- *Stylite Tower*: The geotechnical, geophysical and geo-structural investigation comprised visual, mechanical and seismic tests, with structural modelling. The report sets out the methodologies and detailed results clearly. Tests indicated that although the limestone blocks are generally of medium to high strength, one corner is weak, and the structure much patched. The seismic tests confirm the vulnerabilities of the Tower. No mention is made of previous remedial work or monitoring. Four options for conserving the Tower are identified, all of which involve excavation for new concrete foundations wider than the base of the structure, micropiles and for some form of internal steel brace. One option involves the dismantling of the Tower.
- *Management Plan*: A roadmap for the Management Plan was compiled in January 2014 and proposes to utilise parts of the existing plan and supplement it. The roadmap includes advice on which areas need supplementary work, and identifies current conservation issues as including environmental, housing, commercial development, industrial areas and illegal activities.

- *Public access and use:* Appendix 3 is 'a basis towards a public use plan', summarizes many key issues and sets out a set of short (one year), medium (three years) and longer-term priorities (five years). The views of the local community include concerns over communication and involvement, and infrastructure but demonstrate local awareness of site values.
- *Kastrum Masterplan:* This three-year plan includes site survey: photogrammetric, laser scanning and geophysical survey and is aimed at developing innovative technology and training activities for the conservation of the site. This includes a permanent advanced training school for the 'High Technologies for the Cultural Heritage and for 'Capacity-building in the field of education and Communication in Cultural Heritage'. A short pilot study elaborated in 2013 produced information on the condition of the mosaics in the church of St Stephen, on erosion and disarray of mosaics, and information for interpretation and display. It is not wholly clear whether this forms the complete archaeological research strategy.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The information provided by the State Party in its report and appendices, is well noted, as well as the considerable progress made to address the conservation and management of the property. Results of the physical condition assessment of all the components of the property, expected in June 2013, have not been provided in the State Party's report, but the Kastrum Plan may be intended to replace that survey. However, several issues have not been fully addressed.

Stylite Tower: The geotechnical, geophysical and geo-structural investigation is detailed and sets out the methodologies and results clearly, although it would have been useful to include the results of on-site monitoring in the analysis. The 2014 report sets down four options for stabilising and repairing the Tower, all of which involve some level of excavation around the Tower's base for new reinforced concrete foundations, micropiles and some form of steel brace. One option also involves the dismantling of the Tower before construction of an internal steel brace. The report suggests that the excavations for new foundations may be combined with archaeological research; but makes no mention of archaeological survey of the structure before any works. It is recommended that this structural investigation be considered in relation to a wider analysis of archaeological, historical and other dimensions before any interventions are planned. The dismantling of the tower is not considered as an option and it is suggested that further dialogue on conservation options before work is planned.

Management Plan: The Management Plan appears to still be 'work-in-progress'; the draft index is very short and it is not clear from the documentation when the Plan may be finalized. The appendix 'A basis towards a public use plan' is a welcome addition to the site's documentation and summarises many key issues, with a set of short, medium and longer-term priorities which should be integrated into the Management Plan. But there is no mention of a conservation plan and the archaeological research policy as set out focuses on protection of the mosaics by temporary reburial and on the documentation and systematic mapping of the main structures of the St Stephan complex. Whilst these are important elements, it might be useful to consider a wider context, so that, for example, the archaeological implications of the remedial work at the Stylite Tower can be included.

The Management Plan must be a priority. It would provide a clear framework and vision for the future, and assist in the conservation of the site as a whole and the safeguarding of its Outstanding Universal Value.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.53

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision 37 COM 7B.51 adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Commends the State Party on the progress made to manage and conserve the property;

4. *Takes note of the progress in the technical investigation of conservation measures at the Stylite Tower; and invites the State Party to undertake dialogue with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies before detailed work is planned;*
5. *Urges the State Party to complete the management plan which must include a comprehensive conservation plan and archaeological research policy, and integrate a public use plan;*
6. *Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2016, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

54. Tyre (Lebanon) (C 299)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

55. Ouadi Qadisha (the Holy Valley) and the Forest of the Cedars of God (Horsh Arz el-Rab) (Lebanon) (C 850)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1998

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/850/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 5 (from 1993-2004)

Total amount approved: USD 71,666

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/850/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

June 2003: World Heritage Centre Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2012: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Absence of legislative framework and comprehensive management plan
- Absence of coordination mechanisms
- Illegal constructions and urban encroachments
- Degradation of the mural paintings and buildings
- Uncontrolled tourist development and absence of visitor management

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/850/>

Current conservation issues

On 2 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/850/documents/>. This report addressed the recommendations of the Committee at its 38th session (Doha, 2014), which in turn referred to the main recommendations of the 2012 mission:

- *Paved Road leading to the Monastery of Our Lady of Qannoubine*: a detailed project report for the road access project for the Monastery of Our Lady of Qannoubine, was submitted for review. This included detailed plans, profiles and technical specifications. The major project consists of straightening and paving a single-track access road with passing places over a distance of 4.5km. The project proposal does not include the problematic elements of the 2011 draft project such as a cableway and a model village. *Remedial measures at the Church of St George*: a landscaping proposal for this area will be drawn up, but no details have been provided.
- *Management – update of the 1998 Management plan*: the valley management structure has been revised by the Maronite Patriarchate. The new structure is still presided over by a representative of the Maronite Patriarchate. It includes representatives of the two religious orders, Lebanese and Mariamite, and two chairs of the federation of municipalities of Bcharreh and Zghata. However, although a director and an office executive have been assigned, the management structure does not have the financial resources to allow it to function. A management plan is being planned in the near future. The State Party notes that in the absence of a functioning management structure and adequate regular maintenance, several monuments are suffering conservation problems. A Management and Conservation Action Plan, initiated and funded by the UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut through the UNESCO regular programme, is being prepared. It consists of site management improvements, good practices in the conservation of the property and proposals for pilot projects to be implemented in the valley as well as in the villages.
- *Local Communities*: In the framework of socio-economic studies aimed at ameliorating the living conditions of communities in and around the property, a study has been commissioned by the Ministry of Tourism and will be carried out in cooperation with the Japan *International Cooperation Agency (JICA)*.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

A detailed technical review of the proposed improvements to the access road to the Monastery of Our Lady of Qannoubine has been submitted to the State Party by ICOMOS. This indicates that the overall alignment and cross section of the proposed road appears satisfactory. Although the principle of paving the road with natural stone coating is acceptable, the standard pavers suggested would give the road an urban look, which would not be appropriate for its rural location. Suggestions have been made for alternative, more irregular surfaces. In order that this road is properly integrated into its sensitive landscape, it is suggested that the project team should include a landscape architect, or other specialists who can advise on the local environment and visual aspects. In addition, the project should include management measures to control the speed and types of vehicles allowed, and avoid new development adjacent to the road.

Progress with defining a prioritized programme of conservation is welcomed and should be integrated in the Action Plan prepared in cooperation with the UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut.

It is recommended that the Committee expresses its concern that three years after the 2012 Reactive Monitoring mission, few of its recommendations have been implemented. These include the need to develop a working management structure, the needs for plans on conservation and restoration, visitor management and risk prevention, the need to secure adequate funding, and the need for a detailed inventory of land and buildings. Among the short-term projects recommended by the mission, were the restoration of chapels, ruined buildings, covered canal, and terraces that are key attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), as well as the establishment of an agricultural project, the repair and restoration of terraces, and waste management in the framework of a proactive management approach that would provide socio-economic benefits for the local communities.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.55

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.1**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Encourages the State Party to elaborate and implement the Action Plan for the management and conservation of the property, in collaboration with the UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut and the World Heritage Centre, and to integrate in it a prioritized programme of conservation;
4. Notes that a project to improve the landscape around the Church of St George will be drawn up and requests the State Party to submit details;
5. Also notes that a socio-economic study aimed at improving the living conditions of the communities in and around the property has started;
5. Takes note of the new management structure, but also of the lack of resources to allow it to function;
6. Expresses its concern that three years after the 2012 Reactive Monitoring mission, few of its recommendations on management and conservation have been addressed;
7. Urges the State Party to operationalize the management structure and update the Management Plan and, once the Conservation Action Plan has been approved, address urgent conservation needs of the property related especially to chapels, ruined buildings, terraces and the covered canal;
8. Also urges the State Party to consider the other recommendations of the 2012 mission, including ways to improve the socio-economic development of the valley in the framework of a sustainable management plan and through the organization of a workshop with the support of the World Heritage Centre;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

56. Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Libya) (C 190)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (State Party report on the state of conservation of the property not received)

57. Rock-Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus (Libya) (C 287)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (State Party report on the state of conservation of the property not received)

58. Ksar Ait-Ben-Haddou (Morocco) (C 444)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (iv)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/444/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 2001-2007)

Total amount approved: USD 52,333

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/444/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

September 2003: Reactive Monitoring mission; November 2003: World Heritage Centre mission; April 2006: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; February 2007: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Partial abandonment of the property
- Gully erosion leading to rock falls
- Rock falls due to erosion
- Increased offences in old Ksar and degradation
- Delays in the establishment of a technical and administrative structure responsible for the property
- Uncontrolled tourism and visitor pressure

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/444/>

Current conservation issues

On 20 March 2015, a report on the state of conservation was submitted by the State Party. This report is available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/444/documents/>.

At the end of 2014, the property was damaged by the floods that hit parts of southern and south-eastern Morocco. A commission comprising agencies responsible for conservation visited the scene and prepared a report on damage assessment, noting that three houses and parts of the passages leading to the fortress had collapsed. The work of reconstruction and consolidation will be implemented as part of the restoration project of the houses of the Ksar, which will be carried out by the Centre for the Conservation and Rehabilitation of the Architectural Heritage of Atlas and Sub-Atlas Regions, (CERKAS), and which has prepared a list of special requirements for this restoration work. However, the report indicates that the project has been delayed due to administrative and financial problems, without elaborating.

The report indicates that a new management plan for the 2016-2021 period must be prepared in 2015 and will be a continuation of that which was adopted in 2006 for 2007-2012. The Management Committee continues to meet regularly to review and decide on activities to be undertaken in accordance with the management plan. At each meeting, CERKAS presents a report on the state of conservation, progress of the projects, and problems encountered. On the site, a Committee to oversee and control infractions at the construction site makes two visits per month and provides regular monitoring of the evolution of the site. The role of inhabitants in the implementation of actions is also essential. The Special Account for the conservation of the property, created in 2008, should improve the collection and redistribution of income generated by the site in favour of its conservation, but also for the benefit of the people who make it a living site.

The new Management Plan will primarily aim to continue the partnership policy implemented with all stakeholders and which has given satisfactory results, as well as the reconciliation between conservation and development. The key features of this new plan will focus on conservation by restoring the entire Ksar with the creation of income generating activities. The construction of a new bridge facilitates access to the Ksar. However, it seems that the lack of a budget calls into question the drafting and implementation of this plan.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The damage caused by the 2014 floods seems to be limited, well-documented and properly assessed. The work of reconstruction and consolidation will be supervised by CERKAS, which would seem to guarantee a quality of execution according to current norms. However, it would be useful for the State Party to provide more information about the delay in the completion of this reconstruction and consolidation work foreseen in the restoration project for the houses of the Ksar.

The report confirms that real changes were noted on the site after the implementation of the 2007-2012 Management Plan. However, the positive dynamic created was not directly pursued, and the 2016-2021 Management Plan remains in draft form. It would be useful to know the status of the preparation of this plan, the completion of which seems to be scheduled for 2015. Likewise, it would be useful to know whether the special financial account is operational or not, as the information provided in the report was not sufficiently explicit on these points.

Regarding the bridge connecting the two banks of the Wadi el-Maleh, the report submitted by the State Party does not provide more information than that contained in the previous report. It would therefore be desirable that this be the subject of an impact study on the property, to be submitted to the World Heritage Centre.

Finally, the report does not indicate whether or not the State Party has decided to follow the recommendation of the World Heritage Committee to adopt the approach centered on the historic urban landscape as an additional tool for sustainable management of the property.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.58

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.3**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Notes the State Party's efforts in the conservation of the property, in particular following the 2014 floods which damaged parts of the property;
4. Commends the State Party for the achievements of the 2007-2012 Management Plan and encourages it to continue the positive participatory dynamic that this plan has generated, for the development of the new 2016-2021 Management Plan and its implementation schedule;
5. Requests the State Party to provide information about the special financial account for the conservation of the property, and take the necessary steps to ensure that sufficient

resources are allocated for the conservation and sustainable management of the property, in the framework of the Management Plan in preparation;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre detailed information on the impact of the opening up of the bridge connecting the two banks of the Wadi el-Maleh on the property; and, more broadly, *reiterates its recommendation* to adopt an integrated approach centered on the historic urban landscape as an additional tool for sustainable management of the property;
7. *Also requests* the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, **by 1 December 2016** an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

59. Old City of Sana'a (Yemen) (C 385)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1986

Criteria (iv)(v)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/385/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 6 (from 1990-2014)

Total amount approved: USD 101,997

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/385/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: 1988: USD 374,800, UNDP/UNESCO project in support of local staff training and fund-raising. 2004-2006: USD 60,000 for the Inventory of the historic city (Italian Funds-in-Trust)

Previous monitoring missions

1998, 1999, 2003: World Heritage Centre monitoring missions; 2003 to 2005, and 2010: World Heritage Centre and experts missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Modern constructions and uncontrolled expansion of commercial activities (issue resolved)
- Lack of a Safeguarding Plan (issue resolved)
- Fly-over bridge project (issue resolved)
- Uncontrolled vertical and horizontal additions
- Use of inappropriate building materials and techniques
- Densification of the historic fabric through occupation of green areas
- Functional decay of the residential neighborhoods
- Continuing vulnerability of the property, as a result of extreme conditions since 2011

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/385/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2015, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/385/documents/>.

The State Party reports that Yemen continues to suffer significant adverse political, socio-economic and security conditions, which have worsened in early 2015. These conditions have compromised institutional frameworks, causing conservation and development activity to cease.

The State Party reports that some steps have been taken to sustain cultural heritage protection, through the Ministry of Culture, the General Organisation for the Preservation of Historic Cities of Yemen (GOPHCY), in collaboration with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), including:

- Preparation of a draft *National Strategy for the Preservation of the Historic Cities, Sites and Monuments 2016 – 2020*. An Action Plan will be developed during 2015 to implement the strategic objectives of the Strategy;
- Planning for a stakeholder workshop, which was postponed owing to the security situation; and
- Organization of meetings and workshops with community members to raise awareness and discuss conservation issues.

The State Party confirms its support for the development of a Conservation Plan, using USD 29,700 made available from the World Heritage Fund, but advises that available resources are inadequate and that international experts cannot enter Yemen at present.

A project initiated in conjunction with GIZ to support GOPHCY with capacity building was terminated in December 2014. This project developed important initiatives including the preparation of the National Strategy and the drafting of regulations and guidelines for World Heritage Sites, and preparation of a brochure about inappropriate behaviour in the Old City of Sana'a.

The State Party expresses concern about the level of engagement and capacity of GOPHCY and the barrier represented by the inability of international experts to visit Yemen.

It has not provided any detail about the proposed water and sewerage rehabilitation project, but advises that the project has been postponed and offered assurances that the requested documents will be provided by the Ministry of Culture, GOPHCY and the Sana'a Secretariat.

The proposed joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission has been prevented by the security situation in Yemen.

The State Party has not yet started implementing the International Assistance Request "Preparation of the conservation plan – Old City of Sana'a (I phase inventory update)" (IA2014-2665) because of the current situation but intends to initiate it as soon as possible with local resources.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

For some time, the integrity of the property has been eroding, as a result of contemporary social changes and inappropriate development. The incremental progressive impact has recently been masked by the more-prominent impact of worsening political, socio-economic and security conditions. In combination, incremental change and deteriorating security present a significant threat to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property.

More-effective management provisions need to be established, including preparation of the Conservation Plan which has been previously recommended by the Committee and supported through International Assistance funding. This Conservation Plan should build upon existing documentation including *The Inventory of the Historic City of Sana'a: a Tool for Urban Conservation (2008)*. It should also be incorporated within the Action Plan being prepared to implement the new National Strategy (see below).

The preparation of the draft: *National Strategy for the Preservation of the Historic Cities, Sites and Monuments 2016 – 2020* is very welcome. It is important that the Action Plan arising from the strategy specifically address this property and include provisions for fostering community support and awareness, and international involvement in heritage management, as well as identification of physical conservation requirements.

It is acknowledged that the water and sewerage system requires rehabilitation and that this important work to underpin the infrastructure of the property should receive priority. However, the project should only proceed following the preparation of a thorough Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and identification of appropriate risk mitigation measures. It is highly desirable that GOPHCY become

directly involved in this project, once it is recommenced, so as to ensure that it is implemented in a manner that is consistent with cultural heritage values of the property.

The property would benefit from greater involvement of GOPHCY and improved capacity building. Further involvement from international experts is also desirable, but currently impossible.

Support from GIZ has made a significant contribution to heritage management of the Old City of Sana'a and other World Heritage properties in Yemen. The contribution from GIZ warrants acknowledgement, encouragement and augmentation with support from the international community, although this will necessarily depend on the evolving security situation.

Owing to the unstable situation in Yemen, it has not been possible to organize the recommended joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission. However, the State Party has reiterated its support for such a mission, which should be arranged at the earliest possible time.

Finally, a report on the state of conservation of the property should be requested for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session, in order to assess the evolution of the situation in the country and whether the property is facing an ascertained or potential danger.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.59

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.58**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),*
3. *Notes with great concern that the Old City of Sana'a continues to be vulnerable owing to the deteriorating security situation in Yemen, in combination with ongoing social change, threats of inappropriate development and continuing lack of organisational support and resources for both heritage management initiatives and physical conservation projects;*
4. *Commends the State Party for the preparation of the draft 'National Strategy for the Preservation of the Historic Cities, Sites and Monuments 2016 – 2020' and the proposal for a complementary Action Plan to be developed during 2015;*
5. *Requests the State Party to ensure that the National Strategy Action Plan addresses the current situation of the Old City of Sana'a and includes provisions for completion of the proposed Conservation Plan, cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the proposed water and sewerage rehabilitation project, building conservation, local community awareness and a strategy for attracting international support;*
6. *Expresses its appreciation for the previous support to the Old City of Sana'a by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), and expresses its regret at the termination of the capacity building project for the Old City of Sana'a in December 2014;*
7. *Encourages the State Party to seek further international assistance, specifically directed at capacity building for the General Organisation for the Preservation of Historic Cities of Yemen (GOPHCY), so that it may re-engage and respond to the growing conservation needs of the Old City of Sana'a and other World Heritage properties in Yemen;*
8. *Also requests that the State Party maintain a moratorium on new development or new construction, pending completion of the proposed Conservation Plan and, where appropriate, project-specific heritage impact assessments;*

9. *Further requests that prior to proceeding with the proposed rehabilitation of the water and sewerage project, the State party prepare a HIA, which includes assessment of impacts on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), in line with the relevant ICOMOS guidelines and to submit a copy of the HIA to the World Heritage Centre prior to making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;*
10. *Requests furthermore the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to advise on the proposal for a complementary Action Plan for the National Strategy for the Preservation of the Historic Cities, Sites and Monuments 2016 – 2020' to be developed during 2015;*
11. *Reiterates its previous call to the international community to support the State Party, in co-operation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, in any way possible for priority conservation, management measures and capacity building programmes, as soon as the security situation in Yemen improves;*
12. *Reiterates its request of the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to evaluate the state of conservation of the property and identify measures needed to reverse the decay and ensure the conservation and protection of the property, as soon as the security situation allows;*
13. *Requests moreover that the State Party submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2016, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the steps taken to implement the recommendations above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016, with a view to considering, in the case of confirmation of the ascertained or potential danger to the Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.*

60. Old Walled City of Shibam (Yemen) (C 192)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1982

Criteria (iii)(iv)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/192/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 6 (from 1982-1999)

Total amount approved: USD 121,966

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/192/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Floods (issue previously reported as being resolved)
- Poor maintenance (issue previously reported as being resolved)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/192/>

Current conservation issues

On 20 March 2015, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/192/documents/>.

The State Party has reported that Yemen continues to suffer significant political and socio-economic disturbances which affect conservation and development and that the property is also subject to degradation from natural causes including rains and floods. There were significant floods in 2013 but only some of the damage from these floods has been addressed, with support of the Daw'an Mud Brick Architecture Foundation, during 2014.

Noting that the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) involvement at the property ceased in 2010, the State Party reports that there are no ongoing physical conservation programs, yet 20 significant buildings are currently subject to severe damage, 60 to medium damage and 22 to minor damage. The State Party further reports that the security situation is preventing further donor funding or administrative support.

The Ministry of Culture, represented by the General Organization for the Preservation of Historic Cities in Yemen (GOPHCY) in collaboration with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), has prepared a draft National Strategy for the Preservation of the Historic Cities, Sites and Monuments 2016 – 2020, (Republic of Yemen, Ministry of Culture, GOPHCY). During 2015, it is proposed that an Action Plan will be developed in line with the strategic objectives of the Strategy.

Local authorities have made approaches to potential donors and supporters seeking urgent assistance.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Regrettably, the security situation in Yemen is preventing both effective heritage management and physical conservation works within the property. Future donor support is therefore necessarily constrained unless and until the security situation improves.

There may be short-term opportunities to put appropriate heritage management documents in place, pending progress with security, site access and donor support.

In 1998, the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee had previously invited the Yemeni authorities to prepare an overall management plan and to consider initiating a large-scale rehabilitation programme in co-operation with potential regional and international partners. These initiatives might potentially be pursued, notwithstanding the security and site access issues.

The preparation of the draft: *National Strategy for the Preservation of the Historic Cities, Sites and Monuments 2016 – 2020* is welcome, but it is important that the Action Plan arising from the strategy specifically address this property and include provisions for fostering community support and awareness, and international involvement in heritage management, as well as identification of physical conservation requirements.

It would be desirable for a further Reactive Monitoring mission to visit the property and consider progress with the corrective measures, as soon as the situation allows.

Finally, a report on the state of conservation of the property should be requested for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session, in order to assess the evolution of the situation in the country and whether the property is facing an ascertained or potential danger.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.60

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,

2. Recalling Decision **22 BUR V.B.72**, adopted at the 22nd session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee (UNESCO, 1998),
3. Notes with great concern that the Old Walled City of Shibam is currently subject to significant threats from natural elements, physical changes and a lack of organisational support and material resources for physical conservation projects;
4. Commends the State Party for the preparation of the draft 'National Strategy for the Preservation of the Historic Cities, Sites and Monuments 2016 – 2020' and the proposal for a complementary Action Plan to be developed during 2015 and requests the State Party to ensure that the Action Plan addresses the current situation and include provisions for conservation of damaged buildings, local community awareness and a strategy for attracting international support;
5. Also requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to advise on the proposal for a complementary Action Plan for the National Strategy for the Preservation of the Historic Cities, Sites and Monuments 2016 – 2020' to be developed during 2015;
6. Urges the State Party to work towards preparation of a management plan for the property, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Decision **22 BUR V.B.72**;
7. Expresses its appreciation for the previous support of Shibam by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) but expresses its regret at the termination of the Yemini/German collaboration in 2010;
8. Further requests, the State Party, as soon as it is feasible to do so, given the current security situation, to consider initiating a large-scale rehabilitation programme for the property, in co-operation with potential regional and international partners;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the steps taken to implement the recommendations above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016, **with a view to considering, in the case of confirmation of the ascertained or potential danger to Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

ASIA-PACIFIC

61. Cultural Landscape of Honghe Hani Rice Terraces (China) (C 1111)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2013

Criteria (iii)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1111/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1111/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

Threats identified at the time of inscription in 2013:

- Need to put in place a sustainable eco-tourism strategy for the property and its buffer zone
- Need for an interpretation strategy

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1111/>

Current conservation issues

On 26 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, a summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1111/documents>. The report provides information about enhanced site management and conservation and also responds to the issues raised at the time of inscription, as follows:

- In September 2014, a *Decision on Enhancing Conservation and Management of the World Heritage Site of Honghe Hani Rice Terraces* was adopted. This sets out enhanced legal protection and sustainable development strategies for the forest, villages, rice terraces and water systems, as well as for the traditional culture of the Hani ethnic group;
- A terrace-based red rice production cooperative has been established to encourage local residents to continue farming on the terraces and build a green ecology brand for Honghe. Channels for marketing the red rice have been expanded, and well as for other ecological agricultural products, such as tea and duck eggs, to add greater value to local agricultural produce;
- A fund of USD 4.825 million has been launched to renovate seven villages and provide guidance on protecting traditional architectural features, and to strengthen traditional craft traditions;
- Steep slopes on the summit of the terraces have been returned to forest, to improve ecological conditions and sustain the water supply;
- A research project has been launched with key Universities and scientific institutions to strengthen understanding of the complex cultural/ecological terrace management system.

- Based on research, market analysis and surveys of carrying capacity, and consultation with the local community, the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research of the Chinese Academy of Sciences has prepared a *Sustainable Tourism Strategic Plan for Cultural Landscape of Hone Rice Terraces in China (2014-2030)*. Currently the plans being reviewed by the State Administration of Cultural Heritage of China and will be provided to the World Heritage Centre once approved and made public
- An *Interpretation Plan for Cultural Landscape of Honghe Hani Rice Terraces (2014 - 2030)* has been prepared. It provides diversified interpretation and presentation and aims to enhance knowledge of the values of the cultural landscape, and raise awareness of heritage conservation and compliance with international conventions and Chinese laws and regulations.
- The workshop was held in October 2014 and included participants from the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS, ICCROM and more than 80 international and national scholars and experts. The in-depth discussions, case studies and field studies resulted in the formulation of the *Honghe Recommendations on the Sustainable Development of Terraces Cultural Landscapes*.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

It is well noted that the State Party has made great efforts in responding to the recommendations of the Committee at the time of inscription, and, in particular, taken important steps to strengthen the sustainable management and protection requirements for the property. There has been a satisfying development of the terrace-based red rice production cooperative to encourage local residents to continue with farming and help marketing their products. Continuing the farming practice is a crucial aspect for sustaining the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and it is in this context that the economic support for the livelihood of the local population is important.

It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee commend the State Party for the successful organization of the International Workshop and welcome the *Honghe Recommendations on Sustainable Development of Terraced Cultural Landscapes*. The State Party should also be encouraged to maintain dialogue with other properties in Asia that face similar challenges in managing extensive terrace landscapes.

It is hoped that the State Party will pursue the finalisation, adoption and implementation of the Sustainable Tourism Strategic Plan and the Interpretation Plan in order to provide guidance to the tourism planning from the start. Attention should be paid to the optimum carrying capacity of the landscape for tourists in order to minimise impact on the natural environment and disruption to the traditional cultural life of the Hani people. Furthermore, guidelines should be prepared to regulate tourism infrastructure development in order to ensure the integrity of the villages. In this respect, the impacts of viewing platforms and signage should be carefully reviewed. The State Party should periodically review and update the tourism strategy for the property.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.61

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision 37 COM 8B.24, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Notes the considerable steps taken by the State Party to respond to the recommendations of the Committee;*
4. *Welcomes the strengthened structures to promote sustainable development of the rice terraces and in particular, efforts to add value to local agricultural produce, and foster traditional local practices;*
5. *Commends the State Party for organizing an International Workshop on rice terrace landscapes and takes note of the Honghe Recommendations on Sustainable Development of Terraced Cultural Landscapes;*

6. *Encourages* the State Party, to maintain dialogue with other properties in Asia that face similar challenges in managing extensive terrace landscapes;
7. *Recommends* that the State Party finalizes, adopts and implements the Sustainable Tourism Strategic Planning and the Interpretation Planning documents, and takes into consideration the need to carefully control visitor numbers, and to prepare guidelines for regulating tourism infrastructure development within the property, including impacts of viewing platforms and signage, and requests the State Party to submit copies of the final plans to the World Heritage Centre.

62. Historic Monuments and Sites in Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) (C 1278rev)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

63. Levuka Historical Port Town (Fiji) (C 1399)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2013

Criteria (ii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1399/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2003-2008)

Total amount approved: USD 25,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1399/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

Threats identified at the time of inscription in 2013:

- Need of promulgation and implementation of the Fiji World Heritage Decree
- Lack of a medium-term plan for the conservation of structures in poor condition and for the professional development of expertise in conservation
- Need to finalize the Levuka town-planning scheme

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1399/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1399/documents/>. The report responds to the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee, at the time of inscription, notably addressing the following issues:

- The Decree now named Fiji Heritage Bill has been reviewed and is pending approval by the Cabinet with its promulgation expected for May 2015. The bill foresees the permanent inclusion of the concept of buffer zone management for World Heritage properties, as well as potential future sites in Fiji.
- A survey of the state of conservation of heritage buildings was undertaken in 2014. With the assistance of Heritage New Zealand (New Zealand Agency for International Development) and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) a preliminary field survey of the town landscape and heritage buildings is being carried out. Further cooperation with the agencies foresees the development of conservation plan and implementation guidelines for stakeholders. Addressing the lack of expertise, the State Party has engaged the services of a built heritage advisor to develop and advance the expertise within the National Trust of Fiji, as well as building owners and other partners. Workshops for carpentry, masonry, stained glass are also foreseen in the cooperation agreement to provide the local community with specialised skills for building maintenance and repair. The State Party has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with JICA, the Hokkaido University, Japan, the Levuka Town Council and the National Trust of Fiji for a capacity building project aimed at providing the Levuka Town management organisations with guidelines for landscape preservation and tourism planning.
- The Levuka and Ovalau Heritage Register has been completed and includes archaeological sites identified by the Fiji Museum. Further research on the maritime heritage will be carried out for inclusion in the register.
- The Levuka Town Planning Scheme has been revised and is pending public notification. All new developments have been assessed according to the revised regulations and the requirements under the *World Heritage Convention* allowing for the subsequent implementation of the Levuka Town Planning Scheme once officiated. Concerning the requirement for Heritage Impacts Assessments (HIAs), all major developments are submitted to the Levuka Heritage Committee for assessment and recommendation prior to a decision is made.
- The revised Levuka Town Planning Scheme has been completed and provisionally approved in February 2015. The process for its final endorsement is expected for the first half of 2015 with its implementation by November 2015.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The steps taken by the State Party are most welcome, and it is recommended that the World Heritage Committee commend the efforts made by the State Party in responding to all the recommendations it had made at the time of inscription.

With regards to the inclusion of the concept of buffer zone management for World Heritage properties, as well as potential future sites in Fiji within the revised Fiji Heritage Bill, the State Party should proceed with its implementation as soon as it has been made official.

Further, the progress made with the development of the medium-term plan for conservation is well noted and it is recommended that the Committee commend the ongoing cooperation with Heritage New Zealand and JICA for the development of a conservation plan and implementation guidelines for stakeholders, as well as the projects presented in the report aimed at building the capacity of all stakeholders and management organisations.

The future inclusion of maritime heritage within the Levuka and Ovalau Heritage Register is highly recommended.

As concerns the Levuka Town Planning scheme, the information provided by the State Party concerning its revision and pending endorsement expected for the first half of 2015 is also noted. While the review of all projects by the Levuka Heritage Committee prior to their endorsement is being carried out, the importance of the evaluation by HIAs following the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for World Heritage cultural properties should be underlined, in order to adequately assess the major risks for potential negative impact on the property.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.63

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 8B.25**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Commends the efforts made by the State Party in responding to all the recommendation made by the Committee, notably:
 - a) *Revising and including the concept of buffer zone management for World Heritage properties, as well as potential future sites in Fiji within the Fiji Heritage Bill,*
 - b) *Progressing with the medium term plan for conservation and cooperating with Heritage New Zealand (New Zealand Agency for International Development) and JICA (Japanese International Cooperation Agency) for the development of a conservation plan and implementation guidelines for stakeholders, as well as a number of capacity building activities,*
 - c) *Completing the Levuka and Ovalau Heritage Register including archaeological sites,*
 - d) *Revising the Levuka Town Planning Scheme to regulate the developments within the property, buffer zone and wider setting;*
4. Reiterates its recommendation on the requirement of Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) following the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties in order to adequately assess the potential negative impact of any type of tourism developments in the property, buffer zone and wider setting;
5. Requests the State Party to proceed with the works and actions required to officially adopt and implement the Fiji Heritage Bill, the medium-term plan for conservation and the Levuka Town Planning Scheme;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated progress report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.

64. Group of Monuments at Hampi (India) (C 241bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1986

Criteria (i)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1999-2006

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/241/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 2001-2003)

Total amount approved: USD 109,740

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/241/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: 25,000 EUR under the France-UNESCO Co-operation Agreement for expert missions (2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2011).

Previous monitoring missions

2000: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; 2001: expert technical assessment mission; 2003 and 2004: World Heritage Centre and expert Advisory missions; August 2005: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission; February 2006: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission; January 2007: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; March 2009: UNESCO New Delhi Office technical mission to the property.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of an operational site management plan (issue resolved)
- Lack of traffic regulations limiting heavy duty vehicular traffic
- Construction project for two cable-suspended bridges in the property
- Demolition works in the Hampi bazaar near Virupaksha temple

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/241/>

Current conservation issues

On 16 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/241/documents>. Progress on a number of conservation issues is presented in this report, as follows:

- The clearing and removal of debris from the collapsed bridge have been almost completed. On the basis of a cultural impact assessment study, a new location for the vehicular bridge has been identified.
- Adoption of the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) together with a synthesis and a list of prioritization of recommendations is progressing. To this effect, an inter-services Workshop on "Site Management for Cultural World Heritage Sites – South Zone: Integrated Management Plan, Hampi" was held in June 2013, organized by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and the State Government of Karnataka in consultation with the Indian Advisory Committee on World Heritage Matters (ACWHM). As a result, the "IMP for Hampi World Heritage Site - Action Plans for Priority Implementation" was submitted to the World Heritage Centre, including nine Sectoral Plans. Please see details at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/241/documents>.
- All encroachments in the form of irregular construction at Hampi Bazaar have been removed, based on the 2010 Ancient Monuments Archaeological Sites and Remains Act. The affected families have been relocated and will receive compensation in accordance with the Resettlement Plan and the decision of the High Court of Karnataka. The strategy and action plan for the bazaar area, as well as necessary legal and planning tools to prevent any further encroachments at the Hampi bazaar has been developed in the IMP Sectoral Plans (Master Plan and Rehabilitation for Hampi Bazaar). In line with the IMP, the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Hampi World Heritage Area has been developed, and is being used for the conservation strategy of Virupaksha Bazaar.
- Flooding due to the annual release of water from the Tungabhadra dam is resulting in serious impact on the property. The issue is being addressed in consultation with the Tungabhadra Dam Board Authorities in accordance with the Disaster Management Plan.
- The issue of solid waste management has become a matter of concern at Virupapura gadda, Hampi and the Anegundi river banks but a Solid Waste Management Plan has been developed and is now being implemented.
- Some other issues are also reported by the State Party, including the following:
 - Water-intensive agriculture in the immediate vicinity of monuments could create conservation issues.
 - Heavy traffic on the state highway passing through the periphery of the property is a serious concern. A proposal for developing a new bypass to divert traffic from the

property, as recommended in the Sectoral Plan - Master Plan, has been submitted to the Government of Karnataka.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Significant progress has been made toward the removal of the remains of the collapsed bridge, as well as the organization of an inter-services Workshop on "Site Management for Cultural World Heritage Sites – South Zone: Integrated Management Plan, Hampi" and the preparation of the IMP for Hampi World Heritage Site - the Action Plans for Priority Implementation (including nine Sectoral Plans). In order to consolidate this progress, the State Party should strive to finish as soon as possible all the Sectoral Plans and the process of prioritization and synthesis, and to officially adopt the IMP.

To be noted furthermore are the actions taken by the State Party to remove the encroaching structures previously constructed in the Hampi Bazaar area. In particular, the development of a strategy and action plan for the bazaar area, including necessary legal and planning tools to prevent any further encroachments at the Hampi bazaar, as part of the IMP Sectoral Plans (Master Plan and Rehabilitation for Hampi Bazaar) are positive improvements. Also welcomed is the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Hampi World Heritage Area developed in line with IMP, which is a component of the conservation strategy of Virupaksha Bazaar.

The State Party has also taken steps to address the issues of seasonal flooding and solid waste management. Continuous follow-up and monitoring will be necessary in order to ensure the sustainability of these efforts.

The irrigation for water intensive agriculture in the area poses a threat, especially to heritage structures located in agricultural fields, which could cause future conservation issues. However, the topic is sensitive because of the local economy's reliance on these farming techniques. A strategy for managing this issue should be elaborated in close consultation with local stakeholders.

The Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority's proposal to mitigate the impact of heavy traffic on the property through the construction of a bypass to divert traffic should be welcomed. However, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide more detailed information regarding the proposal.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.64

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.61**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Notes the efforts undertaken to remove the remains of the collapsed bridge and welcomes the impact assessment study for the new location of the bridge;
4. Also welcomes the development of the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) for Hampi World Heritage Site - Action Plans for Priority Implementation and urges the State Party to finalize all Sectoral Plans as well as an overall prioritization and synthesis and adopt as soon as possible the IMP for Hampi World Heritage Site;
5. Also notes the progress made by the State Party to develop a strategy and action plan for the bazaar area, including necessary legal and planning tools to prevent any further encroachments at the Hampi bazaar, and the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Hampi World Heritage Area in line with IMP;
6. Requests the State Party to provide the World Heritage Centre detailed information regarding the proposed bypass to divert heavy traffic from the property;

7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

65. Hill Forts of Rajasthan (India) (C 247rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2013

Criteria (ii)(iii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/247/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/247/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

Threats identified at the time of inscription in 2013:

- Need for substantial progress with major conservation project at Jaisalmer according to the agreed timetable and for capacity building
- Threats from industrial development and mining activities in the wider setting of Chittorgarh Fort
- Vulnerabilities of certain individual structures within Chittorgarh and Kumbhalgarh Forts requiring short-term conservation actions

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/247/>

Current conservation issues

On 28 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/247/documents/>. The report responds to the request of the World Heritage Committee, at the time of inscription, notably addressing the major conservation project at Jaisalmer, and the conservation work at Chittorgarh and Kumbhalgarh Forts, as well as the potential threats to Chittorgarh from industrial and mining activities raised in Decision **37 COM 8B.31**:

- *Jaisalmer*: The infrastructure development project to improve the sanitation, water supply and electricity, and extensive conservation works at Jaisalmer Fort are both under way. Rampant, unauthorised constructions are mentioned that could seriously change the original architectural vocabulary of this "living fort", as well as new large residential/lodging facilities on some of the bastions that are likely to cause immense structural damages due to continuous seepage of sewage from them into the core of the bastions. Although it is stated that the Management Plan will address these, it is also reported that work is still in progress on the completion of the comprehensive site management plan and on conservation, as well as regarding visitor management and risk preparedness plans that were due for completion in 2013.
- *Chittorgarh*: The possible effects of industrial and mining activities were drawn to the attention of the Supreme Court of India in a petition of 2012 from the Birla Corporation and the Supreme Court has directed the setting up of a technical study to monitor the impact of mining on the

monuments and the effect of high visitor turnouts and the vehicular movement within the property. This study is under the consideration of the Supreme Court.

- *Kumbhalgarh Fort*: In order to address the excessive number of visitors to the Vijay Stambh monument, and the attendant risk to their safety, a movement development plan has been initiated. This will also address the movement of vehicles within the fort. Consolidation measures have been taken to stabilize and restore the structures of Kumbhalgarh Fort but no details have been provided.
- *Conservation work*: A considerable number of positive restoration projects are in progress or will be undertaken over the next year such as the Sukhadia tank, Gee Bodh reservoir, Manpura-Bhanpura Haveli and Kumbha Palace at Chittorgarh, and the Battis khambha Chhatri and Jain Temple at Ranthambore Fort. Stone cleaning is also being undertaken at Chittorgarh and Kumbhalgarh.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The World Heritage Committee requested reassurance, at the time of inscription, that the major conservation project for infrastructure and conservation of individual buildings at Jaisalmer Fort would be delivered according to the agreed timescale, in the light of the extreme vulnerability of the hill on which the fort stands to water seepage, and the large number of buildings within the fort that needed attention.

The State Party only reports that work is ongoing, with no details on work undertaken since inscription or reassurances on the agreed timetable being maintained. Worryingly, the report also states that various unauthorised construction activities are rampant and out of control and could add to the already existing sources of water seepage.

At the time of inscription, it was noted that the Management Plan for the Jaisalmer Fort along with sub-plans including visitor management, risk preparedness, and livelihood generation for the local population, would be completed by end of 2013. It is therefore of concern to note from the State Party report that no concrete progress with these plans appears to have been made since inscription and that they are all still in preparation, notwithstanding the view expressed that Plan is seen as the way to control illegal development.

It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee request further details on the progress with the major Jaisalmer infrastructure and conservation project, and its timetable, in order to ensure that the authenticity and integrity of this component are not threatened. It is further suggested that the Committee request the submission of the completed Management Plan for Jaisalmer Fort by an agreed date.

The information provided by the State Party on mining in the setting of Chittorgarh is not clear. From information in the public domain, it is understood that in 2011, the Rajasthan High Court directed that no mining should take place within 10km of the Fort, in order to stop adverse impacts from vibrations, dust and traffic. However in May 2013, a month before inscription, the Rajasthan High Court, in response to a challenge by a mining company, gave a temporary relaxation for mining within 10km but without blasting. Such a relaxation, that was not known at the time of inscription and has not been formally notified until now, could cause adverse impacts on the Fort. Although it is stated that a technical study on impacts is being considered by the Supreme Court of India, this would appear to suggest that blasting as well as mining might be considered within the 10km zone. On 19 March 2015, the World Heritage Centre requested the State Party to provide clarification on this matter. At the time of preparing the working document, no information has been provided.

The information provided by the State Party on the consolidation measures undertaken and foreseen for the Kumbhalgarh Fort is not detailed enough. It is recommended that the Committee also request further information on this issue to the State Party and express its concern that the commitment given at the time of inscription to progress the conservation project at Jaisalmer has not led to any significant progress being made. Furthermore, the protection and management of the setting at Chittorgarh does not appear to be effective.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.65

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 8B.31**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Expresses its concern that notwithstanding the commitments made at the time of inscription, little progress appears to have been made with major project on infrastructure works at Jaisalmer Fort to prevent seepage of water into the Fort mound, or with conservation of buildings within the Fort;
4. Notes with concern that:
 - a) *Illegal building within the Jaisalmer Fort is rampant and could adversely impact on authenticity and integrity of the component,*
 - b) *The Management Plan for Jailsamer Fort that was said to be due for completion in 2013 at the time of inscription has not yet been completed;*
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, as soon as possible, and not later than **1 December 2015**, an updated timetable for the Jaisalmer infrastructure project and to reiterate its commitments to take forward this project;
6. Urges the State Party to complete the Management Plan for Jailsamer Fort, along with the planned sub-plans for visitor management, risk preparedness and livelihood generation for the local population, and submit them to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Also expresses its concern that control on mining in the setting of Chittorgarh Fort, in place at the time of inscription, appears to have been relaxed;
8. Also requests the State Party to provide, as soon as possible, and no later than **1 December 2015**, details of the current arrangement of mining in the setting of the Chittorgarh Fort;
9. Further requests the State Party to provide a detailed report of the consolidation measures undertaken and foreseen for the Kumbhalgarh Fort;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016.

66. Cultural Landscape of Bali Province: the *Subak* System as a Manifestation of the *Tri Hita Karana* Philosophy (Indonesia) (C 1194rev)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late mission)

67. Meidan Emam, Esfahan (Iran, Islamic Republic of) (C 115)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979

Criteria (i)(v)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/115/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/115/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: 5,710 Euros (France/UNESCO Cooperation Agreement)

Previous monitoring missions

July 2002: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; October 2002: World Heritage Centre/World Bank mission; June 2004 and May 2005: UNESCO Tehran Office fact-finding missions; May 2006: World Heritage Centre mission; June and December 2006, April 2007, October 2008, and October 2009: UNESCO Tehran Advisory missions; March 2010: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; May 2013: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Uncoordinated urban development - construction of a large scale commercial complex
- Subway route under the historical axis of Esfahan

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/115/>

Current conservation issues

On 17 March 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/115/documents/>, in response to Decision **37 COM 7B.62** (Phnom Penh, 2013), as follows:

- *Metro Line:* The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the metro line has been carried out and provided to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.
- *Jahan Nama building:* Demolition works of the last floor on the Jahan Nama building have been completed.
- *Boundary of property and modification of the buffer zone:* The State Party is in the process of preparing a proposal for the modification of the buffer zone.
- *Conservation and Management Plan:* A comprehensive conservation and management plan has been prepared. It will form part of the Master Plan of Esfahan, once adopted by the Ministry of Housing and will be provided to the World Heritage Centre after translation.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The efforts made by the State Party to implement the previous Committee decisions are acknowledged, in particular the completed works on the reduction in height of the Jahan-Nama Building

From the information provided, it is not clear however what the actual status of the city metro line is. At the time of the May 2013 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission, work on Metro Line 2 was not expected to commence before 2016. Planning of the route was to be submitted for review and consideration before commencing construction. The authorities have in the meantime carried out a HIA and provided it to the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS. It recommends detailed mitigation measures, as well as that investigation and monitoring of heritage structures shall be an

integral part of the tunnelling activities at all times. While vibrations are expected to be minimal, heritage structures in proximity of Metro Line 2 will be comprehensively studied and monitored before, during and after the works. The placing of rubber pads under the rails may reduce vibrations. Archaeological remains that may be discovered during construction works shall be carefully studied and preserved. The authorities had assured the mission that a floating slab-track system was to be adopted in order to avoid potential vibrations due to Metro operations. It is also noted that a continuous monitoring system for the adjacent monumental buildings will be put in place, in order to ensure that the proposed routing, constructions and underground drillings do not cause any negative impact on the property and its wider setting in Esfahan.

The full Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) will be proposed for adoption at the 39th session of the World Heritage Committee, prior to the official approval of the property boundary and buffer zone.

In addition, the draft Conservation and Management Plan should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for comments by ICOMOS and should only be finalized, in conjunction with the approval of the property boundary and buffer zone, as well as the Statement of OUV.

The 2013 mission further noted that no assessment study on the vulnerability of the property against disasters such as fire and earthquakes, and no systematic risk-preparedness strategy have been developed. It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party, within the framework of the review process for the Conservation and Management Plan, to carry out an assessment study of the vulnerability of the property against disasters such as earthquake or fire. A systematic strategy on risk preparedness should be developed as a specific section while preparing and finalizing the integrated Conservation and Management Plan.

The UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (HUL, 2011) could be a useful tool to address some of the current issues at the property. The HUL approach is being introduced and promoted as a useful tool to help manage the rapid urbanization and development of the property.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.67

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.62**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Commends the efforts made by the State Party to implement the previous Committee decisions, in particular the completed works on the reduction of the upper floor on the Jahan Nama building;*
4. *Notes the results of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) on the Metro Line 2 and request the State Party to implement the detailed mitigation measures recommended by the HIA;*
5. *Welcomes the State Party's commitment to put in place a continuous monitoring system for the adjacent monumental buildings, in order to ensure that the proposed routing of Metro Line 2, constructions and underground drillings do not cause any negative impact on the World Heritage property and its wider setting in Esfahan;*
6. *Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies:*
 - a) *a proposal for clarifying the boundaries of the property and the buffer zone,*
 - b) *the draft Conservation and Management Plan;*

7. *Also recommends* that the State Party carries out an assessment study of the vulnerability of the property against disasters such as earthquake or fire and develop a systematic strategy for disaster risk reduction and to integrate it into the Conservation and Management Plan;
8. *Encourages* the State Party to apply the UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (HUL, 2011) as a useful tool to help manage the rapid urbanization and development of the property;
9. *Also requests* the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

68. Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape (Lao People's Democratic Republic) (C 481)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

69. Katmandu Valley (Nepal) (C121bis)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (due to earthquake on 25 April 2015)

70. Historical Monuments at Makli, Thatta (Pakistan) (C 143)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

71. Historic City of Ayutthaya (Thailand) (C 576)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1991

Criteria (iii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/576/documents/>

International Assistance

N/A

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

April/May 2014: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

N/A

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/576/>

Current conservation issues

From 28 April to 2 May 2014, at the invitation of the State Party, ICOMOS carried out an Advisory mission to the property and identified the following threats: Deterioration due to time; Direct and indirect impact of heavy flooding in 2011; Insufficient number of craftsmen with high standard of skill and traditional knowledge undertaking conservation activities; Concerns about quality of post-flood restoration work.

On 11 March 2015, the State Party submitted a response to the mission report of the ICOMOS Advisory mission to Ayutthaya, which informed on the following:

- *Wall paintings:* The Fine Art Department (FAD) has halted all mural painting restorations as suggested by the mission. A capacity building workshop will be held for restorers, conservators, scientists, technicians, architects, landscape architects and engineers and results will be transmitted to the World Heritage Centre.
- *Flood prevention:* Recognizing the need to address flood mitigation measures, the FAD, with the assistance of UNESCO Bangkok, has initiated a project to study and establish flood modeling in order to propose flood risk mitigation measures for the Historic City of Ayutthaya. The project is financially supported by the Asian Development Bank and is due to be completed in March 2015. In parallel a Disaster Risk Mitigation Plan will be developed on the basis of the UNESCO project and the FAD intends to integrate this plan into the Master Plan.
- *Conservation approaches and practices:* A detailed documentation system for structures based on the existing GIS system inventory will be established and include additional information on the assessment and documentation of modern structural interventions. To address the need for capacity building in conservation practices, materials and craftsmanship, the FAD will be carrying out training workshops. Furthermore, the FAD recognizes the need to establish quality control measures for private companies involved in the extensive conservation/rehabilitation works.
- *Wat Dusit Daram Temple:* The report clarifies that there is no evidence of the original floor tile of the temple and that the terracotta tile was chosen to harmonize with other architectural remains of the same period where this terracotta paving has been found.
- *Building regulations:* At present, the FAD does not have any procedural means to control new constructions within the property. However, the FAD intends to review this issue with the municipality and to encourage them to reassess the procedures and to adopt a better conservation approach to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property is maintained.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

In response to the concerns about the quality of the post-2011 heavy flood restoration work undertaken in a rushed manner in the 2012 fiscal year, ICOMOS carried out an Advisory mission to the property, which reviewed the state of conservation of the property, and notably assessed the impact of the heavy flood and provided technical advice to the State Party with respect to the conservation works and protection measures.

The overall damage to the architectural ruins by flooding was found to be negligible. However, the flooding has caused considerable damage to the mural paintings and resulted in their detachment. The mission suggested the application of resin on the mural paintings to stop the detachment caused by the precipitation of salt crystals, and the construction of drainage system inside the walls to ensure

evaporation towards the outside rather than into the rooms. The authorities require specialist advice and capacity building in order to carry out this work.

A number of flood mitigation measures have been suggested and should be explored by the authorities. These include the construction of protective walls, landscaping to reduce water pressure during a flood, exploring traditional knowledge and techniques, as well as considering the reproduction of the city wall.

A comprehensive plan for conservation and utilization should be developed and a wide range of experts and specialists of different disciplines should be involved in updating the Master Plan. To this end, the authorities should consider organizing an international symposium with academics, the FAD and conservation practitioners to debate the conservation philosophy of brick associated sites and to discuss flood prevention, conservation and management measures at the property to make sure the present intervention correspond to international conservation guidelines. The symposium could provide an opportunity to discuss and agree on principles for the development of an integrated site management plan to address issues relating to the protection of monuments and sites and the historic setting of the property.

The extensive interventions at the property (over 100 monuments at the site) which have taken place are lacking in craftsmanship and documentation. Furthermore, the information on these projects has not been submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*. The mission therefore suggests that the attributes bearing the OUV, the significance of the materials and the craftsmanship and the principles of minimal intervention should be clearly understood so that the work foreseen respects the authenticity and integrity of the property. To this end, training programmes should be put in place as a matter of urgency to improve the skills and expertise of craftsmen undertaking the conservation activities. It is also recommended that conservation approaches are based on scientific conservation principles and respecting use of traditional materials and skills. This will also require a scientific laboratory to assist the restoration and conservation processes. New temples were found to have been built within the historical sites which have an impact on the OUV of the property. Although the FAD does not have any jurisdiction over these developments, appropriate control in line with the national policy concerning the protection of cultural heritage and World Heritage properties must be undertaken.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.71

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B;*
2. *Recalling Decision **36 COM 8E**, adopted at its 36th session (Saint-Petersburg, 2012), adopting the retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) for the property;*
3. *Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party and the steps taken in response to the concerns about the quality of the post-flood restoration work undertaken in 2012 and to the ICOMOS Advisory mission; as well as the project to study and establish flood modelling, in order to propose flood risk mitigation measures for the Historic City of Ayutthaya with the assistance of the World Heritage Centre and UNESCO Bangkok;*
4. *Recommends the State Party to carry out, as a matter of urgency, training programmes to improve the skills and expertise of craftsmen undertaking the conservation activities and to ensure conservation approaches are based on scientific conservation principles and respecting use of traditional materials and skills;*
5. *Requests the State Party to develop a comprehensive plan for conservation and utilization with the assistance of experts and specialists of different disciplines and to update the site Management Plan accordingly;*

6. *Encourages* the State Party to organize an international symposium, in collaboration with UNESCO and the Advisory Bodies, to debate on the conservation philosophy of brick associated sites, together with academics and international conservation practitioners;
7. *Also requests* the State Party to refrain from new construction within the property and its setting in particular within the area of the footprint of the historic city that may have an impact on its OUV of the property and to ensure appropriate control mechanisms are established, in line with the national policy concerning the protection of cultural heritage and World Heritage properties;
8. *Invites* the State Party to provide the World Heritage Centre with detailed information concerning the restoration projects as part of the post-flood interventions and, in general, any major projects foreseen at the property and its buffer zone, for review by the Advisory Bodies, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;
9. *Further requests* the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

72. Historic Centre of Bukhara (Uzbekistan) (C 602rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1993

Criteria (ii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/602/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 1995-2002)

Total amount approved: USD 71,960

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/602/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

October 2010: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Recent hotel constructions which would negatively affect the integrity of the property (issue resolved)
- Heavy traffic, pollution and poor sewage system (issue resolved)
- Lack of a proper conservation and management plan
- Lack of coordination with regard to the conservation and restoration activities carried out as part of the State Programme
- Lack of on-going routine maintenance and varying state of conservation of monuments
- Lack of guidelines for rehabilitation of housing
- Use of new building material and methods

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/602/>

Current conservation issues

On 27 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/602/documents/>. The report does not address the issues raised in the Committee decision. Instead it provides information on other issues, as follows:

- *Management Plan*: No progress is reported on this matter. A Geographic Information System (GIS) database has been created and will be used for developing the Management Plan. The State Party notes that international assistance, including expertise, is required to perform this task, and that a procedure similar to the process used in Samarkand to develop the Management Plan will be adopted.
- *Coordinated conservation approach*: The State Party has not responded directly to this request. However, the report refers to the previously reported 'State Program on research, conservation, restoration and adaptation to the modern use of cultural heritage of Bukhara until 2020', adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers in March 2010, which is now being implemented.
- *New decree of Cabinet of Ministers*: In 2014 a new regulation regarding the utilization of cultural heritage was adopted which permit abandoned properties to be bought or rented. The intention is to attract more financial assistance for the renovation and preservation of abandoned cultural heritage properties.
- *Wood conservation*: During 2013 and 2014 a treatment plan to protect wooden structures from the attack of termites has been developed and implemented.
- *Boundaries and Buffer Zones*: As a result of the retrospective inventory project, the State Party has realised that there are some inconsistencies in the definition of the property boundaries and the buffer zone, and that these boundaries to date have no legal basis. Therefore the State Party, with the assistance of UNESCO Office in Tashkent, will be reviewing and redefining the boundaries based on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) adopted in 2012.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Although the Committee requested the finalization of the Management Plan as a matter of urgency, no progress has been made. In its report, the State Party clearly indicates that there is a need for expertise and financial assistance in order to proceed with the preparation of the Management Plan.

The action taken to treat wooden structures against the attack of termites is an important conservation measure and should therefore be noted. The new regulation adopted to encourage investment for the conservation of abandoned structures is notable. While this could lead to the acceleration of restoration of indispensable buildings in the historic centre, it does however raise some concerns with regard to conservation approaches. As was previously requested by the Committee, this new regulation requires the development of a coordinated conservation approach or plan for the property, as well as clear guidelines for conservation, restoration and rehabilitation in order to ensure that the authenticity of the property is not compromised.

The UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (HUL, 2011) could be a useful tool to address some of the current management issues at the property. The HUL approach can thus be introduced and promoted as a useful tool to help manage development within Bukhara.

It is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to seek International Assistance to finalize the Management Plan in line with the HUL approach, and to develop a coordinated conservation plan as well as guidelines for conservation, restoration and rehabilitation.

It is also recommended that the Committee note the concerns expressed by the State Party regarding the lack of clarity of the boundaries and buffer zone and urge it to clarify these and their status.

In view of the above, and recalling the potential threats identified by the 2010 Reactive Monitoring mission, such as the degradation of traditional houses, lack of guidelines for rehabilitation of housing and structural restoration projects, use of new materials and techniques, inadequate documentation of the major historic buildings and urban fabric, and lack of support in conservation planning in the historic area, it is recommended that the Committee express its concern about the slow progress made with the completion of the Management Plan and the lack of coordination with regard to the conservation and restoration activities carried out as part of the State Programme.

It is finally recommended that the Committee request the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to review the state of conservation, assess the current situation and advise the authorities on the issues identified above.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.72

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.68**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Expresses its concern with the slow progress in implementing the recommendations of the 2010 Reactive Monitoring mission, in particular the lack of progress with the completion of the Management Plan, including an adequate governance system;
4. Notes with concern the slow progress made with the completion of the Management Plan and the lack of coordinated conservation plan and adequate guidance for the conservation and restoration activities carried out as part of the State Program and requests the State Party to address these issues, through:
 - a) completing the Management Plan as a matter of urgency,
 - b) developing a coordinated conservation plan to bring together key conservation activities carried out and planned within the property,
 - c) developing clear guidelines for conservation, restoration and rehabilitation of housing to ensure that the authenticity of the property is not compromised,
 - d) preparing adequate documentation of the major historic buildings and the overall urban fabric;
5. Encourages the State Party to apply the UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (HUL, 2011) as a useful tool to help manage development within the property and to seek International Assistance under the World Heritage Fund, in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
6. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to evaluate the general state of conservation of the property and review its current management and planning system as well as progress made with the implementation of the above paragraph 4 above;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

73. Samarkand - Crossroad of Cultures (Uzbekistan) (C 603rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2001

Criteria (i)(ii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/603/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 1999-2011)

Total amount approved: USD 44,800

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/603/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 50,000 from the Spanish Funds-in-Trust

Previous monitoring missions

April 2005: UNESCO Tashkent Office/ICOMOS expert mission; March 2006: UNESCO Tashkent Office/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; October 2006: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission; December 2007: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; March 2009: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of strategic approach to urban conservation
- Lack of implementation of the management plan
- Impact of urban landscaping programme on the authenticity and integrity of the property
- Large-scale development projects such as road building
- Conservation of urban fabric

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/603/>

Current conservation issues

On 16 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/603/documents/>. The report contains information addressing the conservation and management issues raised by the Committee in Decision **37 COM 7B.69** (Phnom Penh, 2013), as follows:

- *Management Plan*: The management framework and conservation principles for restoration and conservation presented in the Management Plan have guided the activities of the Samarkand Regional State Inspection. Two additional decrees were passed in March and July 2014, further strengthening the management and protection system for the World Heritage property. The state of conservation report mentions that the Management Plan has been included in the annual finance plan, but no further details concerning the human and financial resources were provided.
- *Draft Traffic Scheme*: While no further information was made available concerning the Draft Traffic Scheme, the State Party reports that an Expert Council consisting of representatives of the regional and municipal governance on architecture, the Samarkand Architecture and Construction Institute and the Samarkand Regional State Inspection consider, discuss, and consent to projects on restoration and urban construction planning.
- *Other conservation projects and restoration plan*: In the framework of the 'Programme on research, conservation, restoration and adaptation for modern utilisation of cultural heritage property of Samarkand until 2015', works planned for the preservation of specific monuments, mosques and historic buildings will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for review.

The inventory and monitoring of cultural heritage objects is being carried out and a number of properties needing emergency restoration have been included in the restoration plan of the Board of

Monuments. In this regard, the State Party reports that 22 cultural heritage objects have been included in the restoration plan 2011 to 2015.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

It is recommended that the Committee take note of the efforts made by the State Party in responding to the previous recommendations.

The progress made with regard to the implementation of the '*Document on Management Frameworks and Processes for the World Heritage Property of Samarkand – Crossroad of Cultures*' should be noted, as well as the joint work carried out by all the relevant authorities and stakeholders to ensure the adequate preservation of cultural heritage objects, and control and guide urban planning projects.

In terms of sustainability of the Management Plan, the State Party should confirm that its implementation is assured through adequate human and financial resources within the responsible government bodies.

As concerns the Draft Traffic Scheme, it should be noted that no further details have been provided. As this is a crucial planning tool for the city, they consider that on-going dialogue with the State Party would be desirable as the document is developed.

It is considered that the UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (HUL, 2011) could be a useful tool to help develop approaches for managing the rapid urbanization and development of Samarkand.

It is therefore recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party that construction and infrastructure projects should be anticipated within the framework of the Traffic Scheme and the Management Plan and that the World Heritage Committee shall be notified prior to any major restorations or new constructions which may affect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, in accordance to the Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.73

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.69**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Notes the progress made with the implementation of the Management Plan and efforts of the State Party to strengthen the protection of the property;
4. Takes note that no further information was provided regarding the development of the Draft Traffic Scheme, which is a crucial planning tool for Samarkand, and recommends further dialogue between the State Party, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies as this is developed;
5. Invites the State Party to provide confirmation that the implementation of the Management Plan is assured through adequate human and financial resources within the responsible government bodies;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party that construction and infrastructure projects should be anticipated within the framework of the Traffic Scheme and the Management Plan and that the World Heritage Committee shall be notified prior to any major restorations or new constructions which may affect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, in conformity with the Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;

7. *Encourages* the State Party to apply the UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape (HUL, 2011), as a useful tool to help manage the rapid urbanization and development of the property;
8. *Requests* the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for review by the Advisory Bodies.

74. Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz (Uzbekistan) (C 885)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2000

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/885/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 1999-1999)

Total amount approved: USD 15,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/885/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

October 2002: A monitoring mission by an international expert; March 2006: UNESCO Tashkent/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; October 2006: An informal site visit to the Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz by the World Heritage Centre.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

Lack of a comprehensive conservation and management plan

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/885/>

Current conservation issues

In October 2014, the World Heritage Centre received information about renovation works, construction of new buildings being undertaken at the property, and requested the authorities to provide further information on the issue. On 18 March 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/885/documents/>. It provides information on the programme of construction and reconstruction measures adopted by Decree in February 2014, as follow:

- *Programme for complex measures for development and reconstruction of Shakhrisyabz City:* The State Party reports that a comprehensive programme has been adopted for the period 2014 – 2016, which aims at improving the transportation and engineering infrastructure, conservation and reconstruction of cultural sites, urban landscape improvements, as well as hotel and residential developments. A number of cultural heritage monuments have been included in the conservation and restoration programme, among them the Ak-Saray Palace, the Dorus-Saodat Complex and the Chor-su bazaar and the medieval baths. A working committee headed by the First Deputy Prime Minister approves and monitors all the required activities. Furthermore, the Ministry of Culture and Sports, and other relevant ministries ensure the implementation of works for the preservation of cultural heritage buildings of Shakhrisabz.

- *Urban development:* The programme also foresees improvements to the urban landscape by demolishing arbitrarily built residential buildings near the fortification walls and the monuments. Other projects include the construction of individual and low residential buildings with trade and craft shops as well as modern hotels.
- *Infrastructural improvement:* The issue of rising ground water is addressed by the improvement of soil and hydro-geological conditions and the installation of drainage systems. Monitoring of ground water is also envisaged. The State Party will arrange environmentally friendly means of transportation in response to the issue of air pollution connecting the routes between the complexes.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Noting the willingness of the State Party to enhance the cultural heritage of Shakhrisyabz not only through the envisaged architectural and infrastructural improvements, but also by creating favorable conditions for tourism, the complexity of works envisaged and the limited timeframe are a cause for great concern.

While some plans have been provided, the overall impact of the projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and the extent of urban transformation which could undermine the integrity and authenticity of Shakhrisyabz, have not been subject to Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs).

It is recommended that the Committee ask the State Party to provide, as a matter of urgency, to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, detailed plans and documentation of all works envisaged, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* and to carry out HIAs, in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage cultural properties.

It is also recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to halt or not to commence any works until the above assessments and reviews have been carried out.

Furthermore, in view of the potential threats and lack of a comprehensive conservation and management plan for the property, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to review the proposed development and reconstruction programme at the property, to assess the general state of conservation, and to review its current management and planning system as well as to advise the authorities on the issues identified above.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.74

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision 31 COM 7B.87, adopted at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007),*
3. *Notes the information provided by the State Party on the works envisaged within the "Programme for complex measures for development and reconstruction of Shakhrisyabz City";*
4. *Expresses its concern about the overall impact of the projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and the extent of urban transformation which could undermine the integrity and authenticity of Shakhrisyabz and requests the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre detailed plans and documentation of all works envisaged, including Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for World Heritage cultural properties, for review by the Advisory Bodies;*

5. *Urges the State Party not to commence or to halt any works until the above assessments and reviews have been carried out;*
6. *Reiterates that the World Heritage Committee shall be notified prior to any major restoration and/or new construction which may affect the OUV of the property before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;*
7. *Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to review the proposed development and reconstruction programme, to evaluate the general state of conservation of the property, to review its current management and planning system, and to advise the authorities on the conservation issues at the property;*
8. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016.*

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

75. Historic Centres of Berat and Gjirokastra (Albania) (C 569bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2005

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/569/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2002-2007)

Total amount approved: USD 44,964

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/569/assistance/>

UNESCO extra-budgetary funds

Total amount granted: USD 1,367,014 is provided by the Albanian Government within the framework of the project 933 ALB 4000 "Safeguarding and restoration of selected monuments within the World Heritage site of the Old City of Gjirokaster – Albania"

Previous monitoring missions

November 2012: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Illegal construction dating from the late 1990s
- Lack of specific monitoring indicators
- Lack of programme of archaeological excavations
- Lack of adequate fire fighting arrangements in the historic urban zone
- Lack of detailed tourism development plan
- Management activities
- Management systems/ management plan

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/569/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2014 and 4 February 2015 respectively, the State Party submitted substantial reports on the state of conservation, which are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/569/documents/>. The reports provide detailed information on a number of conservation, emergency stabilisation and restoration works and addresses the issues identified by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013), as follows:

- *Legal framework:* The Ministry of Culture has prepared a new draft Law on Cultural Heritage, scheduled for approval by July 2015. Also, a regulation for the protection, integrated conservation and administration of the historic centre, and buffer zone of the city of Berat has been approved in November 2014. A corresponding regulation for Gjirokastra has been drafted for approval by the Council of Ministers in 2015.
- *Illegal construction:* Owing to the moratorium on construction imposed in Gjirokastra since October 2013, a dramatic decrease in illegal interventions has been reported. Around 13 illegal urban development cases are being dealt with by the responsible authority.
- *Management system:* The Coordination Committee for the Management of the Historic Centres of Gjirokastra and Berat, established in January 2014, is composed of representatives from

national and regional authorities and the Municipalities of Berat and Gjirokastra, thus ensuring coordinated management of the property.

- *Development of detailed monitoring indicators related to OUV:* The main attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) have been indicated on maps and photographs. The Regional Directorates for Cultural Heritage (RDNC) have updated the report files on the state of conservation of monuments in the property and buffer zone. The RDNC of Gjirokastra will complete the report files for second category monuments in 2015.
- *Fire prevention strategy:* The need for a risk management plan as part of the integrated management plan has been recognised by the authorities, and assistance has been requested by the State Party. Projects for water supply and fire hydrants are ongoing or in approval process for the two historic centres.
- *Training* on risk management and sustainable tourism has been provided in November 2014 to two site managers at a regional workshop organised in Sophia, Bulgaria by UNESCO.
- *Awareness raising:* Several cultural heritage educational and awareness raising activities have been carried out despite financial constraints, to help the local community and private owners understand the importance of the World Heritage values, conservation and maintenance and involving them in the decision-making process.
- *Restoration work at Berat Castle:* The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) carried out for the project deems the impact as negligible.
- *By-pass road project:* The State Party reports on a project for a by-pass road in the historic centre of Gjirokastra and the conversion of the bazaar into a pedestrian zone. On 24 February 2015, the World Heritage Centre requested the State Party to provide additional information on the project.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Noting the efforts undertaken to respond to its recommendations, the Committee may wish to commend the State Party for the preparation of the new draft Law and encourage its timely adoption and implementation. Further noted is the progress made with controlling illegal constructions, the maintenance and conservation works as well as the awareness raising and educational initiatives.

Although steps have been taken to improve procedures on protection and management, the State Party should proceed as a matter of urgency with the adoption and implementation of the Regulation for Gjirokastra. In addition, while the Coordination Committee since January 2014 reviews matters related to management and conservation of both cities, the development of an integrated management plan for the property as a whole remains a priority for 2015.

Concerning the monitoring of current conditions, it is noted that file reports on the state of conservation of monuments in the property and its buffer zone are being completed. However, the State Party reports do not clarify whether the authorities have prepared monitoring indicators in relation to the OUV, as requested by the Committee. Therefore the State Party should continue the processes of monitoring and controlling development, and prepare a focused set of monitoring indicators with a clear articulation of the attributes of OUV.

While the project for risk reduction of fire in the Municipality of Berat responds to the need for risk management, there remains an urgent need to install fire hydrants at Gjirokastra.

The HIA carried out for the restoration work at Berat Castle refers to a second phase. Given the potential impacts some of these interventions could have, e.g. in relation to the location and shaping of the parking area, it is recommended that a HIA, in relation to the OUV, be carried out for the sum of proposed interventions to ensure that no negative impacts occur and to inform potential revisions to foreseen projects.

The by-pass road project seems not to have been based on a thorough review of the infrastructural situation of the historic centre in Gjirokastra. It is suggested that this analysis be carried out prior to any decisions are taken. The results of a thorough study should be provided to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for review. The coordinated Tourism Development Strategy, which was recommended by the mission in 2012, should also provide essential guidance for future infrastructural modifications such as the need for parking areas, information points etc.

The World Heritage Centre has received information about a call for proposals for development projects on the Island of Osumi, located within the buffer zone of the property, and additional information from the State Party was requested by the World Heritage Centre on 9 March 2015. The State Party should be reminded to provide to the World Heritage Centre any development proposals

before their official approval in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* for review by the Advisory Bodies.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.75

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.70**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Welcomes the efforts undertaken by the State Party to respond to the recommendations of the Committee and those of the ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission (2012), and encourages the State Party to proceed with the timely adoption and implementation of the new draft Law on Cultural Heritage as well as the new Regulation on the protection, conservation and management of the historic centre of Gjirokastra and its buffer zone;
4. Notes the progress made with controlling illegal constructions, the maintenance and conservation works, as well as the awareness raising and educational initiatives, and requests the State Party to continue to implement the previous recommendations, in particular:
 - a) Develop an overarching integrated management plan, including a risk management component with threat mitigation measures,
 - b) Ensure that the Tourism Development Strategy correlates with the management plan and Urban Developments plans, aiming to strike a balance between the creation of economic activity and the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV),
 - c) Continue the processes of monitoring and controlling development, and prepare a focused set of monitoring indicators with a clear articulation of the attributes of OUV,
 - d) Maintain the moratorium on any new constructions within the World Heritage property and its buffer zone, until the approval of the new Regulation for the protection, conservation and integrated management of the historic centre of Gjirokastra and its buffer zone,
 - e) Continue the efforts to address the need of fire hydrants in both historic centres;
5. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre the results of a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) concerning the entirety of the rehabilitation project at Berat Castle, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
6. Further requests the State Party to prepare a thorough study of the infrastructural situation of the historic centre of Gjirokastra prior to any decision is taken concerning the by-pass road and the conversion of the bazaar into a pedestrian area, and provide details of the project and the results of the study to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Also encourages the State Party to continue to provide to the World Heritage Centre any development proposals before their official approval in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* for review by the Advisory Bodies;

8. *Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2015 and 1 December 2016, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

76. Historic Centre of the City of Salzburg (Austria) (C 784)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1996

Criteria (ii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/784/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/784/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

January 2009: joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2013: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Urban development pressure, high-rise projects
- Hydroelectric power station Salzburg-Lehen
- Train station project outside the buffer zone
- Integrated approach towards management

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/784/>

Current conservation issues

On 10 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/784/documents> and addresses the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee as follows:

- *Modification of development projects* : Of the three projects for which the Committee requested modifications, in line with the 2013 mission report, information has been provided on:
 - *Residential Area Dr.Franz-Rehrl Platz (Residential Buildings City Life Rehrlplatz)*: The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was carried out. Following consultations with ICOMOS International and the local population, the project was revised and amended by the Municipal Council in mid-2014. The project construction permit was submitted in February 2015.
 - *Project at Schwarzstrasse 45 / Ernest-Thunstr. 2*: The City of Salzburg tried to discuss with the developer a reduction of the height by one floor of the seven storey building, however the developer filed a suit in the Constitutional Court as the construction plan had already been authorized. No update has been provided on the requested re-design.

- *The Nelböck Viaduct Rainerstrasse / Bahnhofsvorplatz*: No information has been provided regarding the request to abandon a building of 16 metres above the permitted height limit.
- *Other projects*: Details are provided on eleven other projects within the property and five in the buffer zone. The following three were the subject of recommendations by the 2013 mission:
 - *Residential Building Priesterhausgarten*: It is reported that the architectural competition has been concluded. There is no mention of the mission recommendation to reverse or substantially reduce development in this former important early Baroque garden.
 - *Public Indoor Swimming Pool Paracelsusbad*: The tender for obtaining building permission for this pool is not expected before the end of 2015. There is no mention of the need to reduce the height of the proposed building or to respect the recommendations of ICOMOS Austria which were considered by the mission.
 - *Enlargement of the Parking Area Mönchsberggaragen*: It is reported that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been initiated and the project's compatibility with the World Heritage status was considered unproblematic by the Advisory mission in 2013. New exits are now being considered.
- *Revision of draft Management Plan*: A project to revise the plan was launched in December 2014 and should be completed by mid-2015. A new structure has been put in place for the property, however no further details have been provided. It is also reported that ICOMOS Austria will formally monitor development within the property and its wider setting and provide advice to the City of Salzburg.
- *Legislative and planning mechanisms*: The boundary of Protection Zone 1 has been brought into line with the boundary of the property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Although it is stated that the Residential Area Dr. Franz-Rehrl-Platz project has been amended taking into account the recommendations made by ICOMOS International and the local population, ICOMOS International has not been formally involved in the discussions concerning the amendment of the project. No details have been received of the final plans that have been submitted for planning permission.

No information has been provided on whether the proposed Nelböck Viaduct Rainerstrasse / Bahnhofsvorplatz project next to the central station has been reduced in height, as requested by the Committee.

Third parties have provided further details on the Ernst-Thun Strasse project, which have been shared with the State Party. According to the information provided, permission has been granted for a modified version that would nearly address the mission's concerns and the Committee's requests. As the developer is not satisfied with this, an application has been made for a third version, which is only a very slight variation on the original project. Meanwhile, work has started on the underground elements of the original plans. The original project has drawn much criticism from local residents, 27,000 of whom have signed a petition.

For the *Residential Building Priesterhausgarten* and the *Public Indoor Swimming Pool Paracelsusbad*, it is not clear whether the recommendations of the mission have been followed.

While it is also noted that the administrative and organizational structure of the World Heritage affairs of Salzburg have been changed, it will be important to receive information as to how the changes strengthen the management of the property and improve the consultation and coordination processes between the different authorities.

With regard to the Management Plan, it is noted that the process for revision which is an outstanding issue since 2009, is expected to be completed by mid-2015. Apart from aligning the boundary of the Protective Zone 1 with the boundary of the property, no further progress has been reported concerning strengthening legislative and planning mechanisms through the development of a comprehensive urban land-use plan, as recommended by the mission.

Difficulties in controlling developments which can threaten the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property will persist until adequate planning and management mechanisms are put in place.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.76

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.72**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Notes that amendments have been made to the proposed new development at Residential Area Dr.Franz-Rehrl Platz (Residential Buildings City Life Rehrlplatz) and requests the State Party to submit copies of the final plans to the World Heritage Centre for review;
4. Also notes that the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee in relation to the new development at Schwarzstrasse 45 / Ernest-Thunstr. 2 have not been implemented and that this case is currently pending in court;
5. Also requests the State Party to provide information on the Nelböck Viaduct Rainerstrasse / Bahnhofsvorplatz project as well as details on the Residential Building Priesterhausgarten and the Public Indoor Swimming Pool, Paracelsusbad with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the 2013 mission;
6. Further notes that steps have been taken to harmonize the boundary of the property with the Protection zone I and that the revision of the Management Plan should be completed by mid -2015, and strongly encourages the State Party to pursue to include provisions in the Management Plan to ensure adequate protection and conservation of all attributes which convey the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and its setting;
7. Reiterates its concern about the apparent lack of adequate legislative and planning mechanisms to protect the property from the various proposed urban and infrastructure developments and further requests the State Party to:
 - a) develop a comprehensive urban land use plan which includes provisions for protection mechanisms and regulatory measures to ensure the adequate protection and control of the property and its landscape setting,
 - b) strengthen legal mechanisms for the protection of monuments in their setting,
 - c) carry out Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) for all major projects which may threaten the OUV for the property, in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for World Heritage cultural properties;
 - d) implement the recommendations of the 2013 ICOMOS Advisory mission;
8. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

77. Prehistoric Sites and Decorated Caves of the Vézère Valley (France) (C 85)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979

Criteria (i)(iii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/85/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/85/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

2006: World Heritage Centre site visit; March 2009: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

Micro-organisms: outbreaks of mould and bacterial spores on the surface of the cave paintings of Lascaux

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/85/>

Current conservation issues

On 27 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report on the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/85/documents>, as requested by the World Heritage Committee in its Decision **37 COM 7B.74**. This report provides information on the regular and rigorous monitoring carried out regarding the level of contamination on the surface of the cave by the microorganisms.

Very precise observations for each type of alteration (white mould, dark spots, vermiculations) display a slight evolution of the affected area and a slight variation of the contaminated zones; the most isolated zones of the cave remain in a very good state of conservation.

This relative stability of the affected area can be attributed to a very strict control and policy concerning access (344 man/hours in the decorated part in 2014 for 454 man/hours in 2013), the benefit of automated measuring instruments, and very rigorous modelling and intervention planning.

The slight evolution of contamination has enabled the abandon of biocide treatments since 2008.

But this relative stability must not mask the fragility of the property in a context where the understanding of the cause these phenomena still remains to be further studied.

This is the subject of an important applied research programme for conservation that the Scientific Council wished to undertake. As an extension of earlier research work, the programme for the coming years is as follows:

- The continuation of research relating to *microbe ecology of the Lascaux Cave*, aimed at better understanding the action and interactions of the micro-organisms responsible for contamination, with the aim to better anticipate biological imbalances;
- An analysis of vermiculation phenomena, very scantily documented scientifically at present;
- The completion of a thesis begun in 2013 to better understand the transfers of water and carbon matter in the karst zone of the Hill.

The State Party report also indicates that communication actions were conducted concerning the research work and the new 3-D record of the cave.

Finally, it summarizes the actions and projects aimed at sanctifying the Hill: access forbidden to automobiles, vegetation management plan, construction off site of the future Lascaux IV Centre.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The strong commitment of the State Party in the comprehension and resolution of conservation issues of the cave should be noted. The implementation of recommendations based on early scientific research and the very strict limitation of access have resulted in the relative stability of contamination in an ecosystem that however remains very fragile.

The quality of the very regular and precise monitoring carried out on the conservation of the property should also be noted, each time and when possible preferring the use of automated measuring and recording devices, thus contributing to the limiting of access.

The research programme that continues under the auspices of the Scientific Council has enabled considerable progress in the comprehension of the phenomena of the spreading of the micro-organisms, the hydro-climatic conditions of the cave and the exchanges and interactions between the cave and the overall hill site. The results of this research undertaken for two or three years to come should provide further progress, with as goal the ability to anticipate the imbalances likely to favour an outbreak. The involvement of the Scientific Council in the diffusion of the results of this research, useful to all the parietal art sites, is very satisfactory.

Progress accomplished regarding the sanctifying of the entire Hill includes the construction of a ring road enabling the closure of roads and automobile access and the establishment of a vegetation management plan of the hill, based on research conducted on exchanges between the cave and its environment, are also positive developments.

Finally, note is taken of the commitment to the project for the future International Centre for Parietal Art, Lascaux IV. Its vocation, in addition to the presentation of a facsimile of the integrality of the cave, is to inform and understand the diffusion of Paleolithic parietal art in different sites throughout the world. The establishment of this Centre, the opening of which is foreseen for spring 2016, should also contribute to sanctifying the hill by enabling alternative uses of the Lascaux II facsimile site, located too close to the cave.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.77

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.74**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Notes with satisfaction the relative stability, over several years, of the state of conservation of the property, due to the implementation of recommendations of early scientific studies and the very rigorous limitation of access;*
4. *Congratulates the State Party for the high quality of the scientific research programme developed under the auspices of the Scientific Council, which will enable, in the future, the anticipation of risks of imbalance that favour the spread of contaminants;*
5. *Notes the pursuit of communication efforts through the dissemination of research results as well as exhibitions for the general public based on the new facsimile of the cave;*
6. *Welcomes the progress accomplished in sanctifying the hill and the management of the hill area;*

7. *Requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of the state of conservation of the property, in particular the Lascaux II site, and of any evolution that might have an important impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.*

78. Upper Middle Rhine Valley (Germany) (C 1066)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2002

Criteria (ii)(iv)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1066/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1066/assistance/>

UNESCO extra-budgetary funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

February 2008: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Advisory mission; December 2012: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Noise pollution and traffic increase
- Potential impacts of the Rhine crossing project
- Lack of a Master Plan for the sustainable development of the property
- Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure
- Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation
- Input of excess energy
- Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure
- Renewable energy facilities

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1066/>

Current conservation issues

On 15 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1066/documents>. It addresses the requests of the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session as follows:

- *Master Plan:* Five interest groups have been established to consider the implications of the World Heritage Master Plan in relation to the property. In spring 2016, the Master Plan and other plans will be brought together into a single planning document that will represent the updated 2001 Management Plan.
- *Rhine crossing:* The issue has been not addressed in the current Master Plan.
- *Bobsleigh Track:* Although the Federal State authorities agreed with the Committee's request to refuse permission for the bobsleigh track, the State Government was 'unable to prevent' the final permit from being approved.
- *Loreley Plateau:* Tenders for development proposals based on respect for defined view sheds and the morphology of the plateau are being considered.
- *Energy proposals:* On the basis of a sight-line study, the Federal State of Rhineland Palatinate has passed a resolution to keep the property and buffer zone free of wind turbines and to

ensure that any proposals beyond the buffer zone are evaluated for their impact on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). Nevertheless, it is stated that in a few cases it might be impossible to prevent turbines that have some impact. In the Federal State of Hesse, the Regional Development plan bans turbines in the property but not the buffer zone. A draft energy plan for South Hesse is currently out for consultation and this will identify priority areas for turbines. The State Party suggests that it would be helpful for standard criteria to be developed for the assessment of wind farms in the settings of cultural landscapes to avoid case by case assessments.

- *Noise levels from trains:* An Advisory Committee was established to consider measures to reduce noise levels by at least by 50% by 2020. Nevertheless, it is forecast that the number of trains will increase between 2016 and 2025 as a result of the opening of the Gotthard Base Tunnel. At the same time, proposals for constructing new tunnels are being considered, which could allow trains to bypass St Goar.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

As it has not proved possible to include within the Master Plan an appraisal of what might constitute an appropriate Rhine crossing, as requested by the Committee, other ways to carry out an options appraisal need to be explored, in order to have a clear policy way forward beyond the end of 2016.

The detailed and professional sight line studies are welcomed. It is noted that the Federal State of Rhine-Palatinate will amend its Regional Development plans so that there are policies in place to ensure wind turbines are not allowed within the property, buffer zone or wider setting. The situation is different in the Federal State of Hesse where the Regional Development plan has already been amended and only bans turbines in the property. An energy plan for South Hesse is still out for consultation and will define priority areas for turbines. It remains unclear how the sight line study will be taken on board in this State and this gives cause for concern.

The State Party observes difficulties in considering turbine proposals on a case by case basis and in measuring the impact of turbines on a cultural landscape. In the report, it is suggested that it could be helpful to develop standard measures for assessment of turbines in cultural landscapes. A sight line assessment, as already in place in part of the property, augmented by a three-dimensional framework, should provide an excellent basis for a landscape/area based approach to defining places where turbines are, or are not, allowed and for defining regional policies. ICOMOS would welcome further discussion and consultation with the State Party on how such an approach might be developed, in line with approaches already in place in other cultural landscapes.

Progress on finalizing the Implementation Concept for the Master Plan is noted, as well as bringing this together with other plans to provide an updated plan for the property. The need for the updated Management Plan to set out clear governance processes for the property should be stressed. In particular, it would be helpful to define the interface between those responsible for historic buildings and those for the landscape, as well as how the energy and transport authorities relate to both of these. The apparent lack of such a framework has tended to lead to a number of development projects being forwarded to ICOMOS for comment when there is no agreement between various authorities.

The new advisory body set up to consider ways of reducing noise levels from trains within the property is welcomed. It is apparent that on their own the Governments of the States of Rhineland-Palatinate and Hesse can have limited say on this issue, as many of the solutions depend on the Federal Government (through transport strategies), or the national rail company Deutsche Bahn AG that operates the trains, and that both of these could be influenced by European Union (EU) directives on noise mitigation.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.78

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision 37 COM 7B.75, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),

3. *Regrets that it has not proved possible to include within the Master Plan, as requested, an appraisal of appropriate options for a Rhine crossing; urges the State Party to explore other ways to carry out such an appraisal so that there can be a clear policy way forward beyond the end of 2016; and requests the State Party to submit such an appraisal to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;*
4. *Welcomes the sight line study that has been undertaken in relation to the location of wind turbines, with its clear methodology and detailed implementation as well as the resolution passed by the Federal State of Rhineland Palatinate to keep the property and the buffer free of turbines and to ensure proposals for turbines beyond the buffer zone are evaluated for their impact on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);*
5. *Also urges the State Party and the authorities concerned to accept the outcomes of the sight line study and implement appropriate policies through its energy plan and other measures;*
6. *Encourages the State Party to collaborate with ICOMOS to develop clear and consistent approaches for wind turbine policies, that might have wider application;*
7. *Notes the commitments by the States of Rhineland-Palatinate and Hesse to drive forward measures to reduce noise levels from trains in the property, but also notes the limit of their possible actions and further urges the State Party and the authorities concerned to use their infrastructure programmes in order to prioritise the reduction of train noise and support technical improvements to train tracks and tunnels;*
8. *Stresses the need for the updated Management Plan to set out clear governance processes for the property as well as clear policies and strategies in order to support coherent and consistent development across the whole property;*
9. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

79. Budapest, including the Banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and Andrassy Avenue (Hungary) (C 400bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (ii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/400/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/400/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount provided: 800 million HUF (ca. 2.7 million EUR) EU support for the “Street of Culture” project

Previous monitoring missions

March 2005: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission; November 2007: ICOMOS Advisory mission; February 2013: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Demolition and inappropriate development in the buffer zone known as the ‘Jewish Quarter’
- Inappropriate use of public areas and street amenities
- Lack of conservation of residential housing in the area inscribed as World Heritage
- Increased traffic volume

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/400/>

Current conservation issues

On 30 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/400/documents>. Progress on a number of issues regarding conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous session is presented in the report as follows:

- The establishment of a grants program in 2013 to support the renovation of Budapest’s historic buildings which has resulted in a number of projects being undertaken including the renovation of the Academy of Music, as well as renovation works of the old Jewish quarter and its surroundings;
- The preparation of a “Historic Property Threat Map” to contribute to the monitoring of the property. The map will examine and assess the risk factors (technical conditions and conditions of use) affecting the property. The monitoring of the property will also be aided by the Műemlékőr (Monument Watch) programme and will commence with the preventive maintenance survey of 6 Andrassy Avenue buildings in spring 2015;
- *Amendments to Act LXIV of 2001 on the Preservation of Cultural Heritage to better assess the impacts of development on the property and synchronize the interests of the owners and the preservation of the property’s character;*
- *The Management Plan for the property is currently in preparation and expected to be completed by June 2016 and will also assess: the possible enlargement of the buffer zone, with the addition of Margit Island and other areas;*
- Information about several completed, on-going and planned projects, such as Royal Garden Bazaar Rehabilitation and Partial Reconstruction, including Multipurpose Hall, Exhibit Spaces, Urban Garden and Underground Parking Garage, renovation project of the Buda Castle Quarter and the Kossuth Square development project with a three-level underground garage and a visitors center;
- The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the Liget Budapest project with a new Museum Park, including a regulatory Plan Map for the City Park Building Regulations, has been submitted for evaluation by the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies in February 2015. The State Party plans to start the construction work of the Liget Budapest project in 2016.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party has responded to all the issues raised by the World Heritage Committee and has supplied information about the protection of the property.

It was noted that the Parliament at the recommendation of the government amended Act LXIV of 2001 and its related regulations, as well as that the Gyula National Heritage Preservation and Property Management Center, operating as a mid-level governing body for heritage preservation, provides expert opinions on certain types of procedures affecting the World Heritage area. However, it is still unclear if the appropriate restrictive regulations and rules for concluding agreements by the Municipalities with partners (a Partnership Plan), prior to making town development or regulatory

plans, have been established in order to prevent serious deterioration of architectural and urban coherence.

It is noted that progress is now being made on the Management Plan during which process the proposed enlargement of the buffer zone will be examined.

It is recommended that the Committee commend the State Party for the establishment of the "Historic Property Threat Map" and the Műemlékőr (Monument Watch) programme. However no details were provided on when the map is due for completion. It is also recommended that the map be completed as part of the development of the property's Management Plan to develop a prioritized works program and framework or action.

The progress made by the authorities and in particular those concerning renovation of historic buildings to prevent further deterioration of the Jewish quarter and Becsi Street is noted.

The State Party provided additional information on the rehabilitation and partial reconstruction of the Royal Castle Garden Pavilions, in the Buda Castle Quarter, including Multipurpose Hall, Exhibit Spaces, Urban Garden and Underground Parking Garage and the Kossuth Square development project with a three-level underground garage and a visitors center projects.

It is noted that a preventive archaeological excavation, as well as all relevant protection measures, including a mobile steel door and mobile aluminum flood protection gate, were accomplished by the authorities within the framework of the Kossuth Square development project.

However, the State Party did not submit HIAs for these projects as it was requested by the Committee. The 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission had reservations on the variety of new services for transport and access planned within the Royal Castle Garden Pavilions to overcome the height differences between the riverside and Royal Palace complexes, and recommended to submit an alternative solution to the World Heritage Centre for review. Regarding the project at Kossuth Square, the mission recommended that the State Party submit detailed reports concerning soils, geology and hydrology. It is recommended that the Committee express its concern that the State Party completed these projects without consulting the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and without taking into account the decision of the Committee.

ICOMOS has made an initial assessment of the HIA for the Liget Budapest project which is currently in the design competition stage. It is recommended that before a final assessment can be made on the impacts of this project on heritage, the State Party submits the final designs and plans for the project so that a comprehensive evaluation of the impacts can be undertaken. It is finally recommended that the Committee take note of the steps taken by the State Party to improve the protection of all components of the property and its buffer zone and may request that it implements all relevant measures and plans, defining appropriate degrees of intervention for each element of the property, to support the appropriate implementation of its decisions in order to prevent any threats to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.79

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.76**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Welcomes the efforts made by the State Party to improve the protection of all components of the property and its buffer zone and encourages it to sustain these efforts and secure the necessary resources to ensure that no demolition, inappropriate development or deterioration of historic buildings which could constitute a threat to the property, occur in the property and its buffer zone;*
4. *Requests the State Party to finalize, as soon as possible, the Management Plan of the property, including details of the protective measures and decision making framework*

provided in its regulatory regimes, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;

5. *Also encourages the State Party to continue the work on the proposed enlargement of the buffer zone;*
6. *Expresses its concern that the State Party completed the Royal Garden Bazaar project and the Kossuth Square development project within the property without consulting the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and without taking into account its previous decision;*
7. *Also requests the State Party to submit the final designs and plans for the Liget Budapest project for evaluation by the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies prior to the commencement of the construction phase of the project;*
8. *Further requests the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the recommendations of the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission, as well as all relevant measures and plans, defining appropriate degrees of intervention for each element of the property, in order to prevent any threats to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);*
9. *Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 **December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

80. Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata (Italy) (C 829)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1997

Criteria (iii)(iv)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/829/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/829/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 183 487: Italian Funds-in-Trust

Previous monitoring missions

December 2010 and January 2011: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission; January 2013: Joint WHC/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; November 2014: Joint WHC/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- A series of structural collapses at the property
- Building projects in the vicinity of the property
- Management system

- Inadequate restoration and maintenance; lack of skills
- Ineffective drainage systems
- Visitor pressure

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/829/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2014, the State Party submitted the progress report, as well as the revised integrated management plan of the property. In November 2014, a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property was undertaken and provided a set of recommendations to the State Party. On 30 January 2015, the State Party submitted an updated state of conservation report. Both reports are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/829/documents/>. The State Party report contains detailed information addressing the recommendations made by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session and the progress made with the implementation of the recommendations made by the Reactive Monitoring missions in 2013 and 2014.

A proposal for the modification of the boundaries of the buffer zone of the property was also submitted by the State Party in 2014. It was referred back by the Committee (Decision **38 COM 8B.51**) to the State Party for more detailed information concerning the levels of protection and management arrangements for the buffer zone with regard to urban development. These issues were discussed during the recent Reactive Monitoring mission and the State Party is examining the measures that need to be taken to ensure effective protection and management within the proposed buffer zone.

The State Party reported that the *Grande Progetto Pompei (GPP)*, implemented since July 2014 and supported by the European Union, contributed largely to the restoration, consolidation and maintenance of the property. Numerous conservation and restoration works have been carried out, as well as the development of a water drainage system. All interventions so far implemented were reviewed in November 2014 during the Reactive Monitoring mission.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party's efforts to develop a range of mechanisms to safeguard and develop the property are acknowledged. After having reviewed the site management and the draft Management plan, the conservation works carried out in Pompei as part of the GPP and the current condition, as well as other major conservation issues such as drainage, site security and visitor pressures, the Reactive Monitoring mission concluded that the property is no longer at risk and its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained thanks to the substantial improvements that have been achieved.

The GPP and the maintenance programme have addressed many of the conservation issues raised by previous missions and a number of buildings that were at risk have now been secured. The mission identified some additional five buildings that remain at risk and should be included in the safeguarding programme. In view of the conclusion of the GPP programme by end 2015, the sustainability of resources both human and financial, is of concern. Therefore, the State Party should seek an extension of the GPP and assess the resources needed to sustain the future management and conservation of the property.

Furthermore, the mission noted that legal issues are preventing necessary works at Pompei, notably in the case of the Schola Armatururam and the store building outside the Porta Nola. These issues need to be resolved as a matter of urgency in order to continue the required consolidation works.

Progress on the management plan is welcomed but further efforts would be needed in order to produce an effective and implementable plan. The mission recommended that the Management plan be used as a tool for effective cooperation with the surrounding communes, and formulated specific recommendations in this regard. In addition, adequate monitoring indicators of the state of conservation of the property should be developed as a basis for future planning and resourcing.

It is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to resubmit the proposal for the buffer zone modification taking into account the recommendations of the mission and the Committee's Decision **38 COM 8B.51**.

A major problem for the conservation of the property is the lack of drainage of rain water. This issue has been identified by the GPP and a major scheme has been developed to create a network of drainage channels. The mission recommended that the results of the drainage work in Region II and

IX of Pompei should be carefully monitored, and if successful, a similar programme should be envisaged for the other unexcavated parts of Regions IV and V, and possibly I.

It is also recommended that the Committee invite the State Party to maintain the staffing levels after the GPP has been concluded and to integrate the temporarily provided wardens into the regular system, in order to be able to open the property to the public on a permanent basis.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.80

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.77**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Takes note of the steps taken by the State Party in the implementation of its previous decisions by improving the conservation and management of the property;
4. Endorses the recommendations of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property in November 2014 and requests the State Party to give highest priority to the implementation of its recommendations, notably to:
 - a) Seek the extension of the Grande Progetto Pompei (GPP) and assess the resources needed to sustain the future management and conservation of the property,
 - b) Include the additional five buildings that remain at risk, identified by the Reactive Monitoring mission, in the safeguarding programme,
 - c) Resolve legal issues that are preventing necessary works at Pompei, as a matter of urgency, in order to continue the required consolidation works,
 - d) Complete the management plan taking into consideration the recommendations provided by the Reactive Monitoring mission,
 - e) Carefully monitor the results of the drainage work in Region II and IX of Pompei, and if successful, develop a similar programme for the other unexcavated parts of Regions IV and V, and possibly I,
 - f) Seek to maintain the staffing levels after the GPP has been concluded and integrate the temporarily provided wardens into the regular system, in order to be able to open the property to the public on a permanent basis;
5. Encourages the State Party to pursue its conservation and protection efforts in light of the missions findings and also requests the State Party to resubmit the proposal for the buffer zone modification taking into account the recommendations of the 2014 mission and the World Heritage Committee's Decision **38 COM 8B.51**;
6. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

81. Van Nellefabriek (Netherlands) (C 1441)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2014

Criteria (ii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1441/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1441/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

Threats identified at the time of inscription in 2014:

- New Municipal urban development plan for the property and the whole of its buffer zone not yet completed and promulgated
- Height regulations for the other zones in the vicinity of the property and its buffer zone
- Management Committee for the property not yet set up in its definitive enlarged form
- Transport of hazardous materials in the vicinity
- Project for the construction of a visitor reception centre at the entrance to the property

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1441/>

Current conservation issues

On 30 January 2015, the State Party submitted a full report concerning the state of conservation of this property, which is available at the following web address : <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1441/documents/>. In this report, the State Party provides information on the progress achieved in implementing the recommendations mentioned in the decision to inscribe Van Nellefabriek on the World Heritage List:

- The municipal policy in place in the area surrounding the property has been defined more clearly to improve its protection and its visual integrity. At present, four out of the five zoning plan areas have been completed with one still under preparation. Together, all five zoning plans cover the buffer zone of the property.
- The spatial developments in the vicinity of the property can be actively monitored and action can be taken to prevent any objectionable developments.
- The management committee for the property has been successfully set up and regular monitoring of the state of conservation and management is undertaken by the key parties involved in managing the property.
- The transportation of hazardous goods by rail between Rotterdam and Delft is limited due to the limitations of the tunnel. Hazardous goods are transported by rail over one kilometre away from the property on the Rotterdam-Gouda line. There is no transportation of hazardous goods along the Delfshavense Schie Canal as it runs through a densely populated area. In Spaanse Polder, the transportation of hazardous goods is done by the national road A20 which is 300 metres away from the property.
- A visitor center will not be built to serve as a permanent Visitor Centre in the vicinity of the property. Nonetheless, the State Party intends to create a visitor facility/museum within the former coffee roasting plant. The plans for the facility's development are scheduled to be completed in spring 2015.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The strong commitment of the State Party to the conservation and management of the property should be noted; as well as the fact that virtually all the recommendations made by the Committee at the time of inscription in 2014 have been acted upon. It is noted now that progress is being made with regards to the Municipal Urban Development Plan with the remaining zoning plan set for completion in autumn 2015. Additionally, these zoning plans include measures to guarantee the preservation of the current views of the property.

However the report does not provide details on the policy changes and how effective they will be in providing additional protection to the property and its buffer zone.

It should also be noted that the State Party has successfully set up an enlarged management committee for the property, which intends to meet four times a year and includes representatives of the property, the cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands, and the Municipal Monuments office. The need to sustain these efforts to comprehensively address long-standing concerns should be underscored, particularly in relation to the efficiency of the management system, state of conservation, and visitor management and public use.

It is considered that there is no significant risk to the buildings located close to the rail, roads and canal from the transportation of hazardous materials. However, any incidents should be recorded and reported within the monitoring system.

With regards to the construction of a visitor Centre at the entrance of the property, it is noted that the State Party wishes to create a visitor facility within the former coffee roasting plant. This new development aims to enhance the knowledge and understanding of the property. Plans for the facility's development will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for evaluation in spring 2015 in conformity with ICOMOS Guidelines on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage cultural properties.

In light of the progress made by the State Party, it is considered that the main concerns of the World Heritage Committee are currently being addressed. It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee encourage the State Party to continue with the implementation of all relevant measures and plans, defining appropriate degrees of intervention for each element of the property, in order to prevent any threats to its Outstanding Universal Value.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.81

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 8B.35**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Commends the State Party for the actions it has undertaken in response to the World Heritage Committee's recommendations at the time of inscription to complete the New Municipal Urban Development Plan for the property and the whole of its buffer zone, to conserve the visual integrity of the property, to set up a Management Committee for the property, to confirm that there is no threat to the property from transport of hazardous materials in the vicinity, and to submit the plan for a visitor facility;
4. Requests the State party to finalize, as soon as possible, the Municipal Urban Development Plan of the property and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Notes the proposed plan for a visitor facility within the property and also requests the State Party to provide the World Heritage Centre with the plans for the project, for review by the Advisory Bodies;

6. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.

82. Kremlin and Red Square, Moscow (Russian Federation) (C 545)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1990

Criteria (i)(ii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/545/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/545/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

December 2007: joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS / ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission;
October 2014 : ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Erection of a monument in honour of Marshal G. Zhukov (constructed)
- Ongoing and accelerated urban development pressures

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/545/>

Current conservation issues

On 30 January 2015, the State Party submitted a boundary clarification, as well as a detailed state of conservation report that addresses the progress made with the implementation of the previous Committee's decisions. An executive summary of the State Party report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/545/documents/>.

The State Party report informed about efforts made in addressing different recommendations related to the protection and conservation of the property.

The State Party reported that the regulatory changes are currently being introduced to provide greater protection of the property and its buffer zone from adverse development and use, as well as that the Management Plan is planned to be finalized in 2016. A new project of protection zones of the property, including land use and town-planning regulations, to ensure regulatory protection from urban, economic and other activities which may adversely impact on the property and its buffer zone, is currently is being prepared for approval.

In May 2014, the State Party organized an international seminar on "World Heritage: preservation, management, popularization" held in the Kremlin Museum with the support of the UNESCO Office in Moscow.

The State Party confirmed a number of preparatory works planned within the property related to the reconstruction of the historically lost buildings in the Kremlin. For the first time, information on the demolition project of the Kremlin Presidium Building (B14), as well as the creation of a temporary park for archaeological surveys in the property was transmitted by the State Party to the World Heritage Centre on 16 September 2014. In October 2014, the ICOMOS Advisory mission invited by the State

Party assessed the demolition project of B14 and the potential impact of the planned reconstruction on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and provided a number of recommendations. The mission report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/545/documents>.

The State Party also reported on a project for a complex of the Moscow Kremlin Museums adjacent to the property, including the reconstruction and adaptation of the existing building of the Middle Trading Malls (Red Square, 5) and construction of a new building in the courtyard. The underground part of the new building will house the archival complex with storage areas and parking. As confirmed by the State Party, an evaluation of the impact of the above construction project on the property is being prepared.

Information was also provided on the management system in place, as well as on completion of various restoration projects such as the Kremlin's walls and towers, and the masonry and stone work at the Cathedral of the Archangel Michael.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party's efforts to develop a range of legal measures and protection mechanisms are acknowledged. It is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to adopt all the measures to increase the levels of protection to the property and its buffer zone and implement them as soon as possible.

For the first time since the inscription of the property, the State Party provided a very detailed description of all restoration and repair works accomplished or planned by the authorities. Progress on the management plan is welcomed. It is recommended that the Committee also encourage the State Party to submit the draft Management Plan to the World Heritage Centre for review by ICOMOS. It should be noted that the draft amendment to the Federal Law on the Cultural Heritage of the Russian Federation prepared by the relevant national authorities, following the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2012, is still under consideration by the governmental bodies concerned. It is also noted that the special regulatory protection regime for all components-monuments of the property is planned to be approved by 2016.

There are a number of projects being proposed such as reconstruction of the historically lost buildings in the Kremlin, and the provision of additional facilities for Moscow Kremlin Museums at the Middle Trading Malls (Red Square).

The ICOMOS Advisory mission provided the State Party with a number of recommendations regarding the dismantling of Building 14, which is considered as acceptable. The mission however strongly advises against the proposal for the reconstruction of the historic buildings, originally destroyed in 1929-1930, as this would have a serious impact on the OUV of the property, in particular its integrity and authenticity. In view of the potential important archaeological layers believed to date back to the 12th Century, the State Party should be encouraged to establish an archaeological park providing information and interpretation of the archaeological layers which to date have not been explored. It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, additional documentation as specified in the ICOMOS Advisory mission report, for review by the Advisory Bodies.

The mission further noted that there is neither an Urban Master Plan nor a Conservation Plan which would guide and plan all conservation works within the property. Therefore, it is suggested that a coordinating council is established, as was recommended by the 32nd session of the Committee, and that an Urban Master Plan be developed as a matter of priority.

It is finally recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, technical details, including Heritage Impact Assessments, for all proposed projects within the property and its buffer zone that may have a negative impact on the OUV of the property.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.82

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*

2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.83**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Welcomes the efforts made by the State Party to improve the protection of all components of the property and its buffer zone and encourages it to sustain these efforts and to secure the necessary resources and regulatory regimes to ensure no demolition, inappropriate development or deterioration to the heritage buildings which could constitute a threat to the property and its buffer zone;
4. Notes that the State Party continues to develop regulatory regimes for the property and buffer zone's protection and requests that they are introduced and implemented as soon as possible;
5. Also requests the State Party to finalize, as soon as possible, the Management Plan for the property, including details of the protective measures provided in its regulatory regimes, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
6. Takes note of the ICOMOS Advisory mission report and further requests the State Party to suspend the possible plans for the reconstruction of the historically lost buildings on the territory of Kremlin within the property, which could represent a threat to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and to:
 - a) Submit the approved plan for the demolition of the Building 14, including a technical study on the impact of the demolition on the stability of neighbouring historic buildings to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies,
 - b) Review the future plans, in line with the recommendation of the ICOMOS Advisory mission and to submit a project proposal for the vacant area including a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA),
 - c) Carry out archaeological studies of the area prior to the approval of any future projects and submit the results to the World Heritage Centre,
 - d) Prepare a conservation plan for the property;
7. Also notes the number of proposed developments and conservation works, including for the Middle Trading Malls (Red Square) and the Spasskaya and Borovitskaya Towers, and requests furthermore to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, technical details, including HIAs, for all proposed projects within the property and its buffer zone that may have a negative impact on the OUV of the property;
8. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.

83. Historic Areas of Istanbul (Turkey) (C 356)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late additional information)

84. L'viv – the Ensemble of the Historic Centre (Ukraine) (C 865bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1998

Criteria (ii)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/865/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/865/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

2004: ICOMOS-German World Heritage Foundation mission; March 2010: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- New constructions within the historic centre
- Lack of valid detailed planning documents
- Inadequate infrastructure including the sewage system

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/865/>

Current conservation issues

On 30 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/865/documents>, and that addresses the progress made with the implementation of the previous Committee's decision.

The State Party also submitted geographic and cartographic information as boundary clarifications within the framework of the Retrospective inventory project. The State Party informed on the progress in a number of conservation issues, as well as measures implemented to control the development within the property and its buffer zone. Key measures include:

- The Strategic Development Plan (2011-2025), the Integrated Development Concept for the Central Part of L'viv (2011-2020) and the Social, Economic and Cultural Development Programme for L'viv (2014-2016);
- Measures taken to formalize the regulatory regime to conserve the property and to ensure that any development projects are supported by relevant archaeological investigations;
- The development of zoning plans in all the administrative districts (details have not been provided);
- Strengthened control over archaeological investigations and archaeological supervision during planning and development phases for construction and renovation projects;
- The Scientific Advisory Board established within the municipal Department of Historic Preservation to advise on conservation and development projects within the property and its buffer zone;
- New construction is to be informed by historical and town planning studies and their impact on the cityscape and the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
- Provisions for regulating vehicle entry into the central pedestrian zone have been developed and enacted upon which has seen the reduction of thirty bus routes from the area and increasing the amenity with the reduction of noise and pollution;

- The engineering works were suspended on developments at the hotel and residential complexes (Fedorova 23-15 and Dovbousha 15) and the Residence of the Ministry of Interior (Krivonos 1);
- Various restoration and repair works, archaeological studies and landscaping works have been undertaken and are being proposed in 2015, such as development of underground cross-border tourist routes, as well as new construction projects in the buffer zone.

In July 2013, ICOMOS technical review on the regeneration programme of the ancient Jewish quarter was transmitted to the State Party.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party responded to most of the issues raised by the World Heritage Committee and supplied information about the protection of the property.

A large number of conservation and restoration works were undertaken. Numerous conservation and development projects are proposed for 2015 such as the restoration and conservation of the Turei Zahav synagogue ruins, the clearing and arranging of the area between 35 Staroyevreiska and 3 Arsenalna Streets and the reconstruction of St George Square. It is not clear how the implemented and planned actions respond to conservation priorities.

Regarding the regeneration programme of the ancient Jewish quarter, ICOMOS notes that a reconstruction of lost buildings is proposed and recommends to develop a detailed master plan and conservation plan of the quarter in order to prevent any inappropriate reconstructions.

For this programme, the State Party has not so far submitted to the World Heritage Centre any project proposals and Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) for review by the Advisory Bodies. The Committee may recommend that the State Party submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by ICOMOS, proposals for projects which may have a negative impact on the OUV of the property.

While progress has been achieved in the conservation of several important monuments, without a Management Plan for the property and its buffer zone, and a clear framework for management and action, the authenticity and OUV of the property could potentially be threatened.

It is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to endorse and implement, as soon as possible, all relevant measures to increase the levels of protection in order to prevent any threats to the property and its buffer zone.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.84

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.113** adopted at the 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Welcomes the efforts made by the State Party to improve the protection of all components of the property and its buffer zone and requests it to sustain these efforts and to secure the necessary resources and to adopt regulatory regimes thus ensuring that no inappropriate developments or deterioration of the heritage buildings which could constitute a threat to the property and its buffer zone, will take place;
4. Also requests the State Party to finalize, as soon as possible, the Management Plan for the property, including details of the protective measures provided in its regulatory regimes, and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Notes the number of proposed projects and reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, details of all major developments and conservation works

within the property and its buffer zone, with appropriate Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs), for review by the Advisory Bodies;

6. *Also notes the ICOMOS technical review of the regeneration programme of the ancient Jewish quarter and invites the State Party to implement ICOMOS recommendations and, more particularly, to develop a detailed urban master plan and a conservation plan of the Jewish quarter;*
7. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2016, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.*

85. Kiev: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kiev-Pechersk Lavra (Ukraine) (C 527 bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1990

Criteria (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/527/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 1998-2009)

Total amount approved: USD 44,720

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/527/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

May 1999: ICOMOS expert mission; April 2006: expert mission (Italian Funds-in-Trust); November 2007: World Heritage Centre information meeting for site managers; March 2009 and November 2010: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; April 2013: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Urban development pressure
- High-rise buildings that could compromise the panorama of the historical monastic Dnieper river landscape (built)
- Lack of legal protection and planning mechanisms
- Lack of management system and mechanisms of coordination between all stakeholders including the City Municipality

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/527/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2015, the State Party submitted a detailed state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/527/documents/>, providing a summary of conservation and restoration works, and reports on progress made with the implementation of the Committee's decisions.

The State Party reported on draft documents, including the Management Plan of the property, regulations and measures submitted for review and adoption by the relevant national authorities to prevent any inappropriate development and potential threats to the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). In the Historical and Architectural Structure Plan, which is still under consideration, long-term measures are planned to ensure the protection of the property and its buffer zone, by setting stringent requirements for protection and for high-rise buildings. The zoning plan proposal includes a detailed zoning scheme for the buffer zone, including the protective no-construction zone of Sophia and Lavra into one buffer zone.

In 2014, a Memorandum of cooperation for the preservation of cultural heritage and future city development was signed between different departments of the city administration and the National Union of Architects. A temporary Control Committee of Kyiv City Council was established, the main task of which is verifying the legitimacy of decisions concerning land allocation in the central part of the city. A Working Group was also created composed by the representatives of relevant ministries, the City Council and the civil society.

The State Party reiterated its previous statement that a lighting effect will be used to mitigate the impact of the high-rise building on Klovsky descent 7-A on the historical environment.

The State Party provided information on a number of issues regarding conservation activities at the property, as well as on the reconstructive work of lost buildings, such as a brethren's building, as well as on engineering protection of the territory and landslide events as part of planned activities of the Plan of the Organization of the Territory of the National Kyiv-Pechersk Historical and Cultural Preserve approved by the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The authorities have taken measures to respond to the recommendation of the Committee, in particular concerning regular monitoring, conservation and repair works. Progress should be noted within the management system, in particular the establishment of coordination between main stakeholders, as well as creation of a temporary Control Committee of Kyiv City Council.

It is however significant and regrettable that the State Party has not taken any steps to respond to the previous decisions of the Committee concerning the reduction of height of the building on Klovsky descent 7-A, classified as disharmonious in the Historical and Architectural Structure plan, to an appropriate scale.

ICOMOS has reviewed the project for restoration of the Far and Varangian caves labyrinths, the construction project proposal for the Malopidvalna N°3 and Dessyatynnyi provulok 3 and 5 situated within the buffer zone, the research of the monastery and river landscape of the right bank of the Dnieper surrounding the World Heritage property. The ICOMOS comments have been provided to the State Party on 19 March 2015.

It should be noted that the considerable work carried out for the reconstruction of lost buildings may have a negative impact on the OUV of the property. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre detailed information regarding these interventions.

Of concern, remain the persisting irregular practices within the buffer zone and the lack of information concerning progress made with the new cultural heritage legislation and adequate regulations for protection of the buffer zone. Currently, regulations and legal instruments seemingly fail to provide the adequate protection to the buffer zone. Definitions of building heights are too general and do not differentiate between the diverse characteristics of the urban areas in the buffer zone, leaving ample liberty for interpretation. All relevant documents, provisions, strict zoning regulations with particular emphasis on the establishment of no-construction zones and measures to limit construction permits require urgent validation and implementation in order to prevent further inappropriate development and potential threats to the OUV of the property.

It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to revise the draft of the Management Plan in conformity with the recommendations provided by ICOMOS to the State Party in 2014, and to proceed with its adoption and implementation as a matter of priority.

It is considered that although a number of measures have been taken, there are important weaknesses and deficient procedures that need to be urgently addressed in relation to interventions at heritage buildings and the adoption of a legislative framework. It is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to implement all relevant measures specified in previous mission

recommendations, Committee decisions and recommendations provided by ICOMOS to the State Party in 2015, in order to prevent further potential threats to the property's OUV.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.85

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.33**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),
3. Takes note of the measures taken by the State Party to implement the previous decisions of the World Heritage Committee;
4. Acknowledges the steps taken by the State Party to develop legal measures for the protection of the property and urges the State Party to adopt all relevant legal documents, regulations and measures specified in its previous decisions to support the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and prevent any potential threat to the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
5. Expresses its concern about the reconstruction of the lost buildings undertaken at the property that can potentially erode its conditions of authenticity and requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, technical details, including Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs), for all proposed projects that may threaten the OUV of the property;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2015**, an electronic and printed copy of the draft management plan of the property revised, in conformity with the ICOMOS recommendations, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

86. Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (C 1215)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2006

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1215/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1215/assistance/>

UNESCO extra-budgetary funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

October 2013: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission; January 2015: Joint ICOMOS / ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Resumption of mining activities
- Harbour development
- Commercial development
- Mining

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1215/>

Current conservation issues

On 26 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report for the property, which addressed the requests of the Committee. A joint ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission also visited the property from 27 to 29 January 2015. Both reports are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1215/documents>.

The State Party has put National Planning Practice Guidance into effect with specific reference to the management of World Heritage Sites and the consideration of development proposals that may impact the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and the property's setting. In addition, English Heritage has drafted good practice guidance which provides advice on the protection of properties in their setting. Local authorities have also developed policies for protection of OUV including guidance on developing Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA).

The State Party acknowledges that the supermarket development at Hayle Harbour has had an adverse impact on the property's OUV. Nevertheless, the State Party points out that the development is smaller than the originally proposed one, and that there are 'offsetting' benefits including the repair of the sluicing infrastructure, which allows for the continued use of the harbor. The State Party reports that lessons have been learned at both local and national level from the issues arisen from the development of the supermarket in Hayle, which will be applied in future. Both the adverse impact of the development and the lessons learnt were discussed by all relevant parties during the January 2015 mission.

The State Party has discussed the recommendations of the 2013 mission for the proposed mining at South Crofty with the developer who is willing to consider changes, as long as they do not result in extensive redesign causing a new planning application. The 2015 mission was informed that the plans to resume mining have been halted due to financial constraints, with the mining company in administration. The mission was informed, however, that the mining company was still actively pursuing investors. The State Party through the Cornwall Council are maintaining a "watching brief" on

the site and will intervene with the mining company should the proposal be reconsidered before planning permission lapses in November 2016.

A number of the property's components have been repaired which suffered significant storm damage over the Christmas to New Year period in 2014, including repairs at Portreath Harbour, Calstock, Morwellham and New Quay.

The mission reported that there are other developments currently in various stages of planning and consent, including further commercial and housing developments at the South and North Quay, Hayle Harbour and the Tavistock housing development.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The 2015 mission has reported that the supermarket development has had a negative impact on the OUV of the property. While it could have been possible to design and construct a heritage-led development (supermarket or other use) on the quay, the resulting large box construction and parking lot are inappropriate for the context and make it difficult to understand the quay as part of the cultural landscape of Hayle Harbour. The extent of the impact of what has already been constructed could warrant an inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, in and of itself, but joined with the fact that more development is still planned and represents an ongoing potential danger to the World Heritage property.

It is noted that the State Party and the local authorities have recognized the negative impacts on OUV of the completed supermarket, and have pledged to take steps to ensure that future developments do not have a similar negative impact. This can only be considered as a promising step, which now needs to be followed up by actions to put into place the necessary personnel, administrative structures, planning tools, and guidance documents to ensure better future outcomes.

The 2015 mission recommends that the State Party immediately halts the implementation of the consented development on the remainder of the South Quay and re-enter into negotiations with the developer to make the necessary changes to the proposal to bring it more in line with the historic character of the site and limit any further adverse effects to the OUV. If the development continues as currently foreseen on the South Quay, it would be recommended that the Committee consider the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger at its 41st session in 2017 based on the recommendations of the 2015 mission. In addition, an inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger should be considered if the improvements to the planning tools are not implemented by the State Party in order to ensure that there are no adverse impacts on the property's OUV. The mission report notes that no further proposals for the development for the North Quay, mentioned at the time of the 2013 mission, were presented to the mission.

In regard to the South Crofty mine, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to continue to follow up closely and ensure that if the proposal to restart mining progresses, there is sufficient time to allow for the necessary dialogue and negotiation to ensure that the recommendations for the 2013 mission are followed. In addition, an update of the archaeological reports should be undertaken to inform any future development.

The current development proposals at Hayle Harbour, South Crofty and Tavistock, and any future substantial developments there and elsewhere are required to be evaluated by the Advisory Bodies in an adequate and profound manner to mitigate any further adverse impacts on the property and its OUV. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit plans for these and any future projects, based on HIAs, carried out in conformity with ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for World Heritage cultural properties, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies prior to the approval of any construction and development.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.86

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*

2. *Recalling Decisions **36 COM 7B.94, 37 COM 7B.89, and 38 COM 7B.34**, adopted at its 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012), 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) and 38th (Doha, 2014) sessions respectively,*
3. *Notes the recommendations of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission of January 2015 and requests the State Party to implement them as a priority;*
4. *Also notes that the proposal for mining at the South Crofty mine remains dormant at the moment, and also requests that the State Party continue its vigilance of the property and ensure that if the proposal to restart mining is confirmed, there is sufficient time to allow for the necessary dialogue and negotiation to ensure that the recommendations of the 2013 mission are followed, including the update of the archaeological reports;*
5. *Deeply regrets that the State Party did not comply with the requests made in Decisions **36 COM 7B.94, 37 COM 7B.89, and 38 COM 7B.34** to halt the supermarket development project at Hayle Harbour, further notes that the construction has now been completed and also regrets that the completed structure has been found to have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, according to the recently concluded January 2015 mission and the evaluation of the State Party itself;*
6. *Further requests the State Party to immediately halt the implementation of the consented development on the remainder of the South Quay and re-enter into negotiations with the developer to make the necessary changes to the proposal to bring it more in line with the historic character of the site and limit any further adverse effects to the OUV;*
7. *Requests furthermore the State Party to provide information to the World Heritage Centre on the improvements to the planning tools and approval processes that will result in better outcomes for development within the World Heritage property that supports its OUV; requests moreover the State Party to ensure that, in line with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, details for the current proposed development (Hayle Harbour, South Crofty and Tavistock) and for any substantial future projects in the property or its immediate and wider setting be submitted, together with HIAs, to the World Heritage Centre as soon as possible, and that adequate time be allowed for a thorough review of each project by the Advisory Bodies prior to approval of any construction and development.*
8. *Notes furthermore that it will consider the inscription of the World Heritage property Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape on the World Heritage List in Danger, at its 41st session in 2017, if implementation of the current development proposals at Hayle Harbour continues, and if the proposed improvements to the planning tools and approval processes are not put into effect as outlined by the State Party;*
9. *Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

87. Palace of Westminster and Westminster Abbey including Saint Margaret's Church (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (C 426bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (i)(ii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/426/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/426/assistance/>

UNESCO extra-budgetary funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

November 2006: joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; December 2011: joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Construction proposals in the immediate vicinity of the property that could have an adverse impact on the setting, related vistas and integrity of the property
- Lack of an in-depth visual impact study on possible impacts of development projects, as well as lack of an approved management plan
- Need for protection of the immediate surroundings of the property through an adequate buffer zone
- Housing
- Management systems/management plans

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/426/>

Current conservation issues

On 26 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/426/documents/>.

Following the Committee's request, the State Party reported on the amendments to the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) made in the last year. Other measures that the State Party has undertaken to improve the protection of the property include instruments such as:

- Circular 07/2009, which provides additional support to the interpretation of the NPPG and includes specific reference to the management of World Heritage Sites;
- The draft Good Practice Advice for the Historic Environment produced by English Heritage and the National Historic Environment Forum, with additional advice on the setting issues for a World Heritage Site;
- City Management policies developed within the framework of the Westminster City Plan;
- A tall building study, which will consider the potential impact of large scale development within Westminster; and
- The draft Lambeth Local Plan, which identifies sites for development including Elizabeth House, Waterloo Station and the Shell Centre.

The State Party further reported that the Nine Elms Regeneration Development Market Towers, Vauxhall Cross and Vauxhall Island Site developments have been approved, and that it is not possible for the State Party to prevent the implementation of permissions that were granted. In addition, it confirmed that the first tower at Vauxhall has been completed. The State Party has noted English Heritage's advice that the impact of that development on the setting of the World Heritage site on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property is harmful, mainly on views from Westminster

Bridge looking west – views that were already affected since 1963 by the Millbank Tower. The State Party further reported that other construction phases for the Nine Elms Regeneration Development Market Towers were scheduled for early 2015..

The State Party finally recalled that, even if English Heritage had strong objections to the Elizabeth House development scheme – mainly that it will cause substantial and unacceptable harm to the OUV, setting and views from the World Heritage Site – Lambeth’s planning committee decided to grant planning permission to the project in December 2014. In March 2015 the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) confirmed that permission had been granted and the project will therefore be implemented.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

It is noted that the State Party has not taken any steps to intervene and review the development projects of Nine Elms Regeneration Development Market Towers, Vauxhall Cross and Vauxhall Island Site, which are in an advanced construction phase and, according to English Heritage’s advice, will harmfully impact on the OUV of the property. This impact shall be particularly noticeable in views from Westminster Bridge looking west where, together with the already existing Millbank Tower (118m tall), the new developments contribute to a jagged sense of enclosure to this important view.

It is also noted that permission has been granted for the Elizabeth House development scheme, which will have a substantial adverse impact on the important views to and from the World Heritage property.

Although the regulatory documents and frameworks seem to be reinforced, and although the authorities continue to develop a set of planning guidance documents which are supposed to improve procedures linked to the obligation arising from Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, there is little evidence to show that these are having an impact in protecting the property and its setting in relation to the dynamic urban development of the metropolitan area of London where the property is located.

At the Palace of Westminster, it is stated that major conservation works and repairs are being planned, in particular in relation to its interior services. It is recommended that the State Party submit details for these projects as soon as they are available based on the outcomes of a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA).

New planning applications included in the report will also need to be evaluated by the Advisory Bodies, such as the construction of an access tower to the Triforium in Westminster Abbey, where the creation of a new museum and exhibition space is foreseen for 2018.

The State Party did not report on the progress of the revision of the Management Plan for the property.

Considering the apparent lack of an urban planning framework for the property and its setting, with the result that every new development has to be dealt with on an individual basis, that developments are being approved against the advice of English Heritage, and that the cumulative impact of recent and proposed development is beginning to impact adversely on important views to and from the property, its OUV and integrity, it is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to invite a joint ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission by November 2015.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.87

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **37 COM 7B.90** and **38 COM 7B.36**, adopted at its 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) and 38th (Doha, 2014) sessions respectively,
3. Takes note of the State Party’s efforts to strengthen the policy and planning framework through guidance documents, but notes nevertheless that there still appears to be an inadequate urban planning framework to manage development in the setting of the

property, with the result that development that has been approved contrary to the advice of English Heritage is beginning to have a cumulative negative impact;

4. Deeply regrets that the State Party did not comply with the requests made in Decision **38 COM 7B.36** to ensure that the Nine Elms Regeneration Development Market Towers, Vauxhall Cross and Vauxhall Island Site projects be revised, and notes with concern that they are currently under construction, without the project having been reconsidered after concerns had been raised by English Heritage;
5. Also notes with serious concern that no reconsideration has been made on the Elizabeth House development scheme concerning its design and size and requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed on the development of the project;
6. Further notes that the lack of an urban planning framework brings the need to appraise individual projects and also requests the State Party to ensure that, in line with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, any larger-scale projects which may be proposed in the future in the immediate and wider setting of the World Heritage property be submitted to the World Heritage Centre as soon as possible, before any decision is taken;
7. Also takes notes that major conservation works are planned for the Palace of Westminster and further requests the State Party to submit, to the World Heritage Centre for review, details as soon as these are available, based on the outcomes of a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in conformity with ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for World Heritage cultural properties;
8. Requests furthermore the State Party to finalize the review of the Management Plan for the property as soon as possible;
9. Requests moreover the State Party to invite a joint ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to evaluate the extent of impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property resulting from the implementation of the above-mentioned projects and other current planning applications, and to identify potential courses of action to address ways of strengthening the protection of the property, including through improved planning frameworks and management structures;
10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

88. Brasilia (Brazil) (C 445)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (i)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/445/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 1997-2000)

Total amount approved: USD 42,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/445/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

November 2001: World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS joint mission; March 2012: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Urban pressure that may affect the original city plan (Plano Piloto) that warranted inscription on the World Heritage List
- Lack of a Master Plan

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/445/>

Current conservation issues

In February 2014, in response to Decision **37 COM 7B.93**, the State Party submitted reports on the progress in the preparation of the Preservation Plan of Brasilia's Urban Area (PPCUB), and infrastructure development around the Stadium and its surroundings/Public Transportation Strategy. The reports included detailed information on infrastructure projects in three sectors of the urban area: the Monumental Axis (introducing bicycle lanes), the surroundings of the Stadium (organizing the vehicular and pedestrian access and parking spaces respecting the Pilot Plan) and those of the Television Tower (recovering the landscape design by Roberto Burle Marx), as well as projects linked to the public transportation strategies improving the connections of the Pilot Plan with the surrounding areas. Regarding the preparation of the PPCUB by a Technical Working group (GTT), the State Party reported that there had been significant improvements mainly regarding the definitions on the characteristics of the Urban Scales, and on the classification of each sector according to its preservation values.

However, on 29 January 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is accessible at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/445/documents/>. The report informs that the PPCUB process was interrupted due to institutional and legal matters and the election process that took place in 2014. The newly elected Government of the Federal District (GDF) that took office in January 2015 decided to withdraw the latest version of the PPCUB and to reintroduce it for discussion.

The State Party furthermore informs that contacts have been established between the *Instituto do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico Nacional* (IPHAN) and the new GDF and that it was agreed that:

- Earlier agreed elements of the PPCUB will be introduced in the discussions;

- A common agenda will be established for the shared management of issued related to the protected areas;
- An agreement of technical support will be signed between the IPHAN and GDF by mid-February 2015 in order to formally establish the shared management arrangements;
- The work on IPHAN's Ordinance No 314 (regarding the non-aedificandi spaces) will be continued and improved by the end of June 2015.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Regarding the infrastructure development, an ICOMOS Technical Review of June 2014 concluded that the projects do not introduce modifications or create impacts on the layout of the Pilot Plan, the use or other factors of occupancy of the areas (scales) foreseen by Lucio Costa, which are the core attributes of the property. The proposals address problems and issues that have been underscored previously and incorporated improvements related to parking, circulation and pedestrian and vehicle access in the specific sectors where they will be implemented. They also contribute to the recovery of relevant landscaping designs around the Television Tower. The review concludes that these projects will not negatively impact the attributes that sustain the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property.

As to the preparation of the PPCUB, it should be noted with regret that no significant progress has been made in addressing the recommendations made by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session. The finalization and adoption of the PPCUB remains a matter of extreme urgency to adequately include the conservation and protection of the attributes of the World Heritage property in urban planning mechanisms. The intention to sign a formal agreement between GDF and IPHAN for the shared management and technical support for issues related to the protected area is welcomed. However, a consolidated Management Structure remains of the utmost urgency.

As to the regulations for open spaces in the Pilot Plan, the joint effort is welcomed between IPHAN and GDF to continue and improve the work on complementing and detailing IPHAN Ordinance No 314 regarding the non-aedificandi spaces.

It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit a timetable for the finalization and approval of the PPCUB, a report on the further definition of Ordinance No 314 regarding the open spaces in the Pilot Plan, and to provide the documents that establish the formal cooperation and shared management between GDF and IPHAN as well as the operational arrangements for its implementation.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.88

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.93**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Notes that the infrastructural projects in the areas of the Monumental Axes, the Stadium and the Television Tower will not negatively impact the attributes that sustain the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and, in the case of the Television Tower, will contribute to the recovery of the original landscape designs;
4. Regrets that the process for the preparation of the Preservation Plan of Brasilia's Urban Area (PPCUB) has been interrupted and that no substantial progress has been made in its preparation;
5. Urges the State Party to resume this process as a matter of extreme urgency and submit a timetable for the finalization and approval of the PPCUB;
6. Requests the State Party to provide the documents that establish the formal cooperation and shared management between the Government of the Federal District

(GDF) and the Instituto do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico Nacional (IPHAN) as well as the operational arrangements for its implementation;

7. Also requests the State Party to submit a report on the further definition of IPHAN Ordinance No 314 regarding the open spaces in the Pilot Plan;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

89. Churches of Chiloé (Chile) (C 971)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2000

Criteria (ii)(iii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/971/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (2002)

Total amount approved: USD 50 000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/971/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

December 2013: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Insufficient delimitation of boundaries
- Construction of a shopping mall in the vicinity of the Castro Church

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/971/>

Current conservation issues

On 9 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, a summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/971/documents/>. Implementation of actions is reported as follows:

- The legal text establishing the new Ministry of Culture which will bring together the National Council of Culture and the Arts (CNCA), the Directorate of Libraries, Archives and Museums (DIBAM), and the National Monuments Council (CMN) is in progress and will be sent to the National Congress for approval in the course of 2015.
- The decree officializing the National Policy for Urban Development, adopted in May 2013, is still pending for approval. No specific timeframe for its adoption has been provided.
- The development of a National Programme for World Heritage Sites with the participation of the Ministries concerned and all stakeholders is in progress and a 2nd meeting of Chilean World Heritage site managers took place in December 2014 to progress on this initiative.

- Through the Programme Value Enhancement of Heritage, public investment in the property has been ensured to continue financing restoration works conducted by FUNDAICH (Foundation Friends of the Churches of Chiloé).
- The “Integral plan to protect the churches’ settings as Typical Zones” is being implemented and to date, 6 churches have been granted legal protection under Law N° 17288 with well-defined and official buffer zones and the corresponding regulatory measures. 3 more churches will be part of the system in 2015 and it is announced that the process for the remaining 7 churches will be completed by December 2016. San Francisco Church’ setting protection in Castro is foreseen to be regulated through the revision of the Local Regulatory Plan to be completed during 2015-2016. A request for Minor Boundary Modification will be submitted for 9 churches by 1 February 2016 and the others at a later stage.
- 6 municipalities are considering Preliminary Protection Areas (APP) initially proposed for the definition of wider settings. The process to update and develop Local Regulatory Plans in rural and urban areas is being conducted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MINVU) and is expected to be finalized by 2017.
- Guidelines and tools for a comprehensive Management Plan are being developed by FUNDAICH and CMN which includes the update of the criteria and procedures of intervention at the Churches, the restoration plan, a management model for the Route of the Churches for touristic purposes, Carpenters School, the re-launching of the program *To Restore with identity among others*. Particular attention is paid to actions involving local communities in the monitoring and conservation process.
- With regard to the mitigation measures of the Castro shopping mall constructed in 2013, the State Party is making efforts to avoid new similar constructions through the revision of the Local Regulatory Plan with a view to divide or fragment the building’s volume and reduce its heights. The Municipality of Castro has approved in January 2015 the development of a study to revise the current urban regulations.
- A list of measures to improve the transit management, accessibility and relieve traffic pressures in Castro have been mentioned, such as the implementation of a Transport Plan developed by the Transport Department of Castro and the construction of a Bypass to Route 5 at the south of the City. Furthermore, the Ministry of Transports and Telecommunication requested the Shopping Mall of Castro an analysis of voluntary mitigation measures.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The important efforts made by the State Party to strengthen the coordination among the various levels of administration are welcomed. The future creation of the Ministry of Culture will be a significant progress in this direction as well as the design of the National Program for World Heritage Sites.

The progress made in the delimitation of buffer zones through the *Integral plan to protect the Church’s setting as Typical Zones* to further protect the characteristics of wider setting for all the components of the property is also noted. However, up to date only 6 churches from the total of 16 have protected zones. As stated in the recommendations of the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission, the absence of clear regulations to control possible threats constitutes a risk to the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and this question needs to be urgently addressed. The timetable proposed by the State Party until end 2016 requires to be fully respected. It is therefore urgent that the State Party submit the proposed buffer zones for all the components, in conformity with the procedures for Minor Boundary Modification set up in the *Operational Guidelines*.

As to the Integrated Management Plan for the sixteen churches, the progress made with the revised criteria of intervention, the restoration plan and other programmes linked to the sustainable tourism strategy and the effective participation of local communities is very encouraging. However, it is crucial to finalize the process to fully guarantee the protection of the OUV of the property.

Regarding the mall at Castro, no significant progress has been made with regard to mitigation measures requested by the Committee in its last decision nor the study of traffic impact requested on the urban tissue of Castro. The fundamental importance of all the churches as dominant elements in the landscape of Castro has been identified by the 2013 mission as part of the attributes for its OUV, and it was considered that the mall has a negative impact and compromises the wider setting of the church of Castro. It is therefore urgent that the revision of the Local Regulatory Plan of the City will be conducive to the effective reduction of the buildings’ volume and heights to avoid similar situations in

the future. The implementation of a transport plan for the City and the By Pass project for the main Route 5 crossing near the San Francisco de Castro Church which will alleviate the transit pressure and the financial commitments to ensure its finalization by 2018 is a good progress and requires to be fully implemented.

The important efforts made by the State Party and FUNDAICH in the restoration of the churches in Dalcahue and Chelín is recognized, and it is important the State Party continues providing resources and expertise through the Programme Value Enhancement of Heritage put in place by the State Party.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.89

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **38 COM 7B.40**, adopted at its 38th session (Doha, 2014),*
3. *Acknowledges the efforts made by the State Party in the establishment of a comprehensive mechanism to enhance the coordination and management of the property at all levels of administration and welcomes the progress made in creation of the future Ministry of Culture;*
4. *Reiterates the recommendations of the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission to the property and urges the State Party to implement them;*
5. *Regrets that the State Party did not submit the final proposal for the buffer zones of each component part of the property as a minor boundary modification;*
6. *Notes with concern that no mitigation plan has been submitted to reduce the visual impact of the Castro Mall on the Castro Church and its wider setting as requested in previous decisions;*
7. *Also urges the State Party to finalize the legal definition of buffer zones and visually sensitive areas around each component part and establish the appropriate legislative measures to ensure the overall protection of the property;*
8. *Requests the State Party to finalize the review of all current Urban Master Plans in the light of the characteristics defined in the final proposal of buffer zones and new regulatory measures designed for the protection of the settings of the Churches of Chiloe and to establish clear building parameters and restrictions for all the municipalities that do not include these planning tools in their management framework to ensure the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;*
9. *Also requests the State Party to finalize the process for the development of an Integrated Management Plan for all sixteen churches inscribed in the serial property;*
10. *Reiterates its requests to the State Party to develop measures to mitigate the impact of the Castro shopping mall on the visual characteristics and setting of the Castro church to better integrate it with the existing setting;*
11. *Also reiterates its requests to the State Party to submit a Study of Traffic Impact for the Castro shopping mall on the urban tissue of the City of Castro;*
12. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2016**, a progress report and, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the*

implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

90. Historic Quarter of the Seaport City of Valparaíso (Chile) (C 959rev)

See Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B.Add (late supplementary information)

91. Maya Site of Copan (Honduras) (C 129)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1980

Criteria (iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/129/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 11 (from 1979-1999)

Total amount approved: USD 226,513

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/129/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

2003: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; 2005: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; November 2011: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- The foreseen construction of an airport in the vicinity of the World Heritage property in a national protected area
- Deterioration of construction materials due to natural decay phenomena
- Risk of structural failure of archaeological complexes resulting from tunnels excavated for archaeological purposes
- Deterioration derived from uncontrolled visitation and potential to exceed carrying capacity at specific time periods
- Legal issues concerning the ownership of the land in the property and its buffer zone and the delimitation of the property and its buffer zone

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/129/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report and a revised version on 26 February 2015, which is accessible at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/129/documents/>. In September 2014, it had submitted a report on the Management Plan, Carrying Capacity Study as well as on progress in the final design of the protective structure of the Hieroglyphic Stairway. Regarding the aerodrome in the Rio Amarillo area, the report indicates that it is under construction and will be opened in March 2015. The State Party reports that works are executed according to the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee and the 2011 Advisory mission and that the length

of the runway is 1200 meters, with an additional 200 meters for security reasons (Annex 7). A Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was finalized in June 2014 by the Copan Association. Appropriate inspection missions, archaeological research and rescue measures have been undertaken that are documented and annexed to the report.

The cartographic information for the buffer zone is included on pages 62-63 of the Management Plan.

The Management Plan for the period 2014-2020 was prepared on the basis of a series of meetings of technical and scientific staff of the Honduran Institute of Anthropology and History (IHAH), associated researchers, staff of other national institutions such as the Permanent Committee of Contingencies (COPECO), and the Forest Conservation Institute (ICF), among others. Participation of institutions of civil society and communities was less than expected but landowners agreed to resume negotiations about land transfer to the government. The Copan Archaeological Park Contingency Plan is incorporated in the Management Plan and addresses natural disasters such as floods, fire and earthquakes and provides preventive as well as corrective measures. The COPECO is the national institution responsible for its implementation in collaboration with IHAH.

The protective cover of the Hieroglyphic Stairway, whose designs were submitted to the World Heritage Centre in September 2014, is still under development and models with different fabric are being prepared for testing. A new laboratory has been built for the conservation of sculpture and specific monitoring projects of stucco sculptures in the tunnels will be undertaken.

Overall, the State Party concludes that the conditions of the property are optimal since there have not been recent natural hazards and the number of national and international visitors has been significantly low since 2009.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The Rio Amarillo airport was inaugurated on 10 March 2015. Works were carried out taking into consideration the specific recommendations provided by the 2011 Reactive Monitoring mission and the runway limited to 1200 meters as requested by the World Heritage Committee decision with additional 200 meters for security reasons. The Cultural HIA that was undertaken by the Copan Association with due consideration to the ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for World Heritage cultural properties, provides useful observations, recommendations and conclusions that should seriously be considered by the relevant institutions. The efforts made by the State Party to rescue and relocate archaeological remains around the aerodrome during 2013-2014 should be noted. The proposed definition of the buffer zone for the property is noted. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit a Minor Boundary Modification, in conformity with the established procedures in paragraphs 163-165 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

ICOMOS undertook a Technical Review of the Management Plan and the Carrying Capacity Study for Copan transmitted to the State Party on 19 March 2015 that concluded that there is a need for improvement particularly in the areas of Carrying Capacity and visitor management, disaster preparedness and community participation. The following recommendations are made to this effect:

- R1 – Create a public-private Task Force coordinated by IHAH to redesign the management plan (with objectives, activities, outcomes, indicators, budget, and the stakeholders involved) and an associated financial resources strategy.
- R2 – Include a coordination strategy in the action plan between the Maya Site of Copan with other associated archaeological sites in the area, such as Río Amarillo/La Castellona and/or Piedras Negras located near the aerodrome. It would be necessary to develop a strategy to create commercial points in order to control the informal activity around the aerodrome and the archaeological sites of Río Amarillo and Copan.
- R3 – Promote networking with other Maya sites included in the World Heritage List to share experiences and the best practices in management plans and their implementation.
- R4 – Establish a methodological framework for carrying capacity studies in protected archaeological sites linked to their management plans.
- R5 – Promote a real sustainable tourism initiative according to the recommendations of the World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme and in joint action with the Instituto Hondureño de Turismo (IHT).
- R6 – Establish new trails according to the needs of the tourism sector and be consistent with the arrival of groups with limited time (such as cruise tourists and half-day trips by plane). It also would be important to promote an interpretive trail integrating environment and archaeology.

- R7 – Consider a pre-sale electronic ticket payment system that allows not only a forecast of visitors but also allows their distribution within a schedule and the proposal of other sites that could contribute to a territorial distribution of visitors.
- R8 – Confirm in the management plan the prohibition for airlines and charter flights to fly over the archaeological site.
- R9 - Redesign the management plan (including communication) so that it contributes to improving the quality of life of Copan citizens, generating opportunities and inclusiveness, and promote community involvement and sustainable tourism development. Actions regarding the informal selling of handicrafts, community-based tourism initiatives and an active participation of all stakeholders are urgently needed.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.91

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.99** adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),*
3. *Notes that the runway of the Rio Amarillo airport will be limited to 1200 meters long, as requested by the World Heritage Committee and the recommendations of the 2011 Reactive Monitoring mission, and recognizes the efforts made by the State Party to rescue and relocate archaeological remains located in the surroundings of Rio Amarillo;*
4. *Welcomes the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) that was undertaken by the Copan Association for the airport area and invites relevant institutions to consider its observations, recommendations and conclusions;*
5. *Also notes the cartographic information provided by the State Party and requests the State Party to finalize the boundary clarification within the framework of the Retrospective Inventory process and to submit a final proposal for a buffer zone according to paragraphs 163-165 of the Operational Guidelines concerning Minor Boundary Modification;*
6. *Appreciates the efforts of the State Party to prepare the Management Plan and Carrying Capacity Study for the World Heritage property and also invites the State Party to undertake its revision with due consideration of the ICOMOS recommendations particularly regarding the action plan and financing strategy, tourism projections and visitor management and the participation of communities;*
7. *Also requests the State Party to keep it informed of further developments in the design and testing results of the protective structure of the Hieroglyphic Stairway;*
8. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.*

92. Historic Centre of Lima (Peru) (C 500bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1988

Criteria (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/500/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 1989-2013)

Total amount approved: USD 94,500

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/500/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

1994: Systematic monitoring report UNDP/UNESCO; March-April 2003: Reactive Monitoring mission ICOMOS; January 2010: WHC / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Fires in 1998 and 2001 (issue resolved)
- Formalization of the procedures to set up a Management Coordination Unit to implement the Strategic Plan
- Revision of the Master and Strategic Plans
- New development projects within the Historic Centre including urban transportation systems (Corredor Segregado) and interventions in historical buildings
- Development of the cable car project for tourism purposes

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/500/>

Current conservation issues

On 13 February 2015, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report with extensive annexes, a summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/500/documents/>.

The “Improvement of the Institutional Processes of the Metropolitan Municipality of Lima in Urban Planning and Management of the Historic Centre of Lima” is under implementation with services from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to optimise the Management Unit of the Historic Centre of Lima. The Master Plan for the Historic Centre of Lima has been finalized and is pending final review and approval by the Ministry of Culture.

As to the High Capacity Segregated Corridor, projects for three stations (Colmena, Espana-Quilca, and Ramon Castilla) are in their final stages of evaluation at the Ministry of Culture.

Regarding the Cable Car Project, the State Party submitted extensive documentation in September 2014. The Cable Car Project will link Parque Malecón del Río (located in the property) with Cerro San Cristóbal (located in the buffer zone) in a single stretch approximately 1,293 metres long and with a slope of 224 metres. It will use a double-way tractor cable and 4 supporting towers. It will comprise two stations: a departure station in the Lima District and an arrival station on top of Cerro San Cristóbal. The route of the Cable Car Project crosses part of the World Heritage area and the remaining stretch of the route and the arrival station are located within the buffer zone.

The State Party reports that the Cable Car Project was first submitted in May 2012 and approved by the Ministry of Culture in April 2013 after some modifications. The criteria for approval were that the stations suitably fitted into the space where located, blending into the terraced topography of the hill or being half-buried within the current constructions of platforms and viewpoints. With regards to Tower 2, it is indicated that it is located on a talus slope formed between the Vía de Evitamiento and Jirón Marañón, where the historic Alameda de Acho or Tajamar de Acho used to be located. The landscape

and gardening treatment basically consists of a tree-planting plan featuring species similar to those found at the Alameda de Acho.

The State Party stresses that the works have not begun, as they are waiting for the approval of the Concession Agreement Addendum to perform the engineering survey without which works cannot start.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The efforts to continue to improve the management system and to elaborate a Master Plan for the Historical Centre of Lima in the context of a complex and very extensive urban area are much appreciated. An in-depth review of the effectiveness of these mechanisms and instruments will be required in due time. The 250-page Master Plan appears to include all relevant elements, however, the detailed review and observations from the Ministry of Culture would be required for a more in-depth technical review.

The information on the High Capacity Segregated Corridor is noted. However, although some designs and photo montages are included as annexes to the State Party report, Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) as referred to in Decision **37 COM 7B.102** have not been submitted. The scale and potential impact of the stations remain of concern.

ICOMOS undertook a technical review of the Cable Car Project and notes that it will be located in an area of a great visibility from the Historic Centre, since the hill, the Cerro San Cristóbal, dominates the city landscape with its relevant presence. Consequently, it would be necessary to take extremely careful measures so that its installation does not cause a negative impact.

The information supplied by the State Party accounts for the approval procedure for the project, which was revised in consideration with what was required by the Ministry of Culture so as to reduce its impact on the landscape and heritage.

In addition to the background information on the process, the State Party submitted the final design, the technical specifications and the precise location of the route for the Cable Car Project in relation to the inscribed property. The information does not however include the relevant Heritage and Visual Impact Assessments, as requested by Decision **37 COM 7B.102**.

As a conclusion, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to comply with Decision **37 COM 7B.102** and to submit the pending information requested. It is also recommended that the State Party develop a HIA following the ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties (January 2011), and develop visual simulations of the entire Cable Car Project route with visual cones projected from relevant points within the Historic Centre and from the Plaza de Toros de Acho, which is very near Tower 2. Simulations should include all four supporting towers as well as the departure and arrival stations.

Draft Decision: 39 COM 7B.92

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-15/39.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.102**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Appreciates the efforts made by the State Party to strengthen the management and planning mechanisms for the Historic Centre of Lima and requests the State Party to finalize the approval process of the Master Plan and submit a critical review of it by the competent authority, as well as an assessment of the effectiveness of the proposed management arrangements for the property;
4. Reiterates its concern regarding infrastructural interventions in the World Heritage area related to the High Capacity Segregated Corridor and also requests the State Party to undertake and submit Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) in the sections that could potentially impact the World Heritage property;

5. *Notes with regret* that the information provided on the Cable Car Project does not include the relevant Heritage and Visual Impact Assessments requested by Decision **37 COM 7B.102** and *further requests* the State Party, prior to making any commitment to its implementation, to submit by **1 February 2016** a progress report including:
 - a) a HIA following the ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties (January 2011),
 - b) visual simulations of the entire Cable Car Project route with visual cones projected from relevant points within the Historic Centre and from the Plaza de Toros de Acho, which is very near Tower 2. Simulations should include all four supporting towers as well as the departure and arrival stations;
6. *Requests furthermore* the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2016**, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017.

II. OMNIBUS

Bam and its Cultural Landscape (Iran, Islamic Republic of) (C 1208)

See Document WHC.15/39.COM/7B.Add

Rio de Janeiro, Carioca Landscapes between the Mountain and the Sea (Brazil) (C 1100rev)

See Document WHC.15/39.COM/7B.Add